

Chancellor warns of inflation rise to over 6 per cent next year

Lawson's extra £2bn for NHS

● The Chancellor of the Exchequer surprised MPs yesterday when he announced public spending increases far in excess of what was expected

● Mr Lawson admitted that some Budget forecasts were wrong, with inflation 2 per cent higher and the trade deficit £9 billion more than predicted

● The National Health Service is to get an extra £2 billion next year, the biggest increase ever and more than Labour had said it would provide

● Mr Gordon Brown, for Labour, condemned the statement as a set of measures that compounded rather than corrected the errors of the Budget

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mr Nigel Lawson surprised MPs and the City yesterday by announcing generous public spending increases for 1989-90, including an extra £2 billion for the National Health Service, the biggest increase it has yet received.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said the total would not rise above the £167 billion planning limit set last January, but he admitted several divergences from his Budget forecasts.

He said that inflation would be 4 per cent in the last quarter of this year - now it will be more than 6 per cent into the middle of next year. He predicted then a trade deficit of £4 billion. Now he has admitted that it will be £13 billion this year and £11 billion in 1989-90, Mr Lawson

said in his autumn statement that public expenditure for 1988-89 would be £3.25 billion less than originally allowed for.

The shortfall was accounted for by £1 billion gained in privatization proceeds, a reduction in social security benefit handouts of about £1 billion thanks to lower unemployment and a saving of £750,000 on receipts from council house sales.

The result, Mr Lawson announced to Conservative Party cheers, was that total public spending in Britain this year, even if privatization sales were excluded, would be less than 40 per cent of national income for the first time in more than 20 years.

Since 1982-83, public expenditure had fallen as a share of national income by 7 per cent, the most sustained drop since the wartime economy was unwound.

The announcement that spending for 1989-90 is to be contained at the level planned last January when most observers in politics and the City had been expecting an increase of £2-3 billion is accounted for not only by the rigorous pairing exercise conducted by Mr John Major, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, for whom the figures mark a personal triumph, but also by the fact that lower unemployment will continue to cut social security spending. In addition, revenue from council house sales will continue buoyant.

The planning totals for 1990-91 and for 1991-92 have been revised upwards to £179.5 billion and £191.5 billion, although those include increases from £3.5 billion to £7 billion and £10.5 billion in the contingency reserves.

It is the first time in three years that the Government has not exceeded its original planning figures, and the package won Mr Lawson and Mr Major a desk-thumping reception from Tory MPs when they attended a meeting of the backbench finance committee

last night. The increases announced by Mr Lawson, in spite of what he called a "rigorous reassessment of priorities", include more than £2 billion in extra funding for the NHS in 1989-90, with £2.5 billion the year after.

Health authorities are also expected to gain £100 million from land sales and £300 million from a change in pension arrangements.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Secretary of State for Health, said the boost in health spending was "quite spectacular".

THE MAIN POINTS

- Public spending: Estimated £163.5 billion 1988-89, £3.25 billion below previous estimate. 1989-90 - £167 billion. 1990-91 - £179.5 billion. 1991-92 - £191.5 billion.
- Health: £2 billion more than planned increase in 1989-90.
- Roads: extra £220 million.
- Housing: Up £440 million next year.
- Law and order: Up £290 million.
- Defence: Up £150 million next year, £300 million in 1990-91.
- National insurance: Lower earnings limit up to £43 a week, upper limit to £325 a week.
- Social security: Marginally reduced 1988-89 due to unemployment fall, rises £1.7 billion in 1989-90.
- Education, science: Up by £885 million.
- Growth: Estimated 4.5 per cent this year.
- Inflation: Just over 6 per cent last quarter of this year, peaking middle of next year, falling back to 5 per cent.
- Current account deficit: About £13 billion this year.
- Public sector debt repayment: Estimate £10 billion this year (forecast was £3 billion).
- Growth: Expected slowdown to 3 per cent next year, current account deficit down to about £11 billion.
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The figures represent a political coup. They are more than even Labour had promised.

Mr Paul Channon, the Secretary of State for Transport, has won a switch in priorities, with an extra £220 million being provided for building and repairing motorways and trunk roads and strengthening bridges next year. A further £250 million will be allocated for that purpose in 1990-91. Total spending on such infrastructure will be £3 billion over the next three years. Capital spending on roads has increased by 50 per cent in real terms over the past 10 years.

Law and order was another area singled out by the Chancellor. The Home Office budget will increase by £290 million next year and £430 million the year after, with the creation of another 3,000 prison places and 1,100 police recruits.

Defence will receive another £150 million in 1989-90 and £300 million the year after.

The Department of Education's science budget is to be increased by 16 per cent, the biggest increase since the Conservative Government took office.

The social security budget will increase by £46.7 million next year and by more than £51 million the year after, although lower unemployment is expected to reduce spending by £1.5 billion in each of those years. The increases reflect substantial gains planned for the disabled. Mr Lawson told MPs that the increases represented an overall increase of £2.25 billion in public sector capital spending.

On national insurance contributions, the Chancellor announced a rise in the lower earnings limit to £43 a week and in the upper earnings limit to £325 a week. Though the Treasury supplement to the National Insurance Fund, already reduced from 18 per cent to 5 per cent under this government, is now to be



Long-term caution

Squeeze on consumers

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

Mr Nigel Lawson gave notice of a sharp squeeze on consumers and a period of slower growth in the economy in his autumn statement yesterday.

Consumer spending, which has been growing at more than 5 per cent this year, will slow to about 1 per cent later next year and interest rates are likely to stay high for some time.

The Chancellor said that inflation would rise above 6 per cent. The trade deficit of £13 billion this year would be proportionately as high as that of the United States.

Mr Lawson made clear that

he expects investment and exports to take up some of the slack left by lower consumer spending. However, growth overall will fall from about 4.5 per cent this year to 3 per cent next year. By the second half of next year, it will have fallen to 2.5 per cent.

Lower growth will be combined with a temporary rise in inflation and a big balance of payments deficit. Inflation is expected to rise to a little more than 6 per cent in the final quarter of this year and will continue to edge up, reaching a peak in the middle of next year. By the final quarter of

next year, it should be down to 5 per cent, in line with City expectations.

The big balance of payments deficit to persist for some time. With consumer spending growing much more slowly and growth in imports decelerating, the deficit is expected to fall to about £11 billion, or 2.25 per cent of the economy, next year.

However, public finances remain very strong and spending in the present year is expected to be £3.25 billion below the planned level, putting the total below 40 per cent

Health rebels take the hint

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The announcement by the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, of an extra £2 billion for the health service was sufficient to deter several MPs from joining a revolt last night against charges for dental and eye examinations.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Secretary of State for Health, had urged MPs to back the charges, arguing that the health service could make good use of the revenue.

As the Government braced itself for one of the biggest backbench rebellions of recent years, Mr Clarke told MPs to reinstate in the Health and Medicines Bill the clauses thrown out by the Lords which would bring in the charges.

He warned that if the Government were defeated the £135 million the charges would bring in would have to be found from elsewhere in the health service budget.

Pointing out that the debate was taking place against the background of the "dramatic" rise in spending on the health service announced earlier by Mr Lawson, Mr Clarke said this should not encourage MPs to relax the search for extra revenue.

Mr Clarke said it was no good expecting the Government to reopen the public spending discussions if it was defeated on this issue.

"That is not on. You cannot run a whole staff that way, let alone a Government," he said.

Throughout his long discussions with Mr John Major, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, both of them had felt the health service could make good use of the money.

Mr Clarke denied the charges would deter people from going for examinations.



INSIDE

P&O
European Ferries

● Readers can do their Christmas shopping in France and Belgium for just £5. The second voucher for The Times/P&O offer appears today on page 15.

£286,000
Portfolio
PLUS
Accumulator

● There was one winner of yesterday's £4,000 daily prize, so the Accumulator fund stands at £286,000. Prices: page 28

Investors own Clowes yacht

Boukaphas, the luxury yacht that Mr Peter Clowes used as a home base in Gibraltar, belongs to the investors of Barlow Clowes International, Gibraltar supreme court declared yesterday.

The vessel was owned by Charterley Marine, a company linked to Mr Clowes which tried to block its sale.

The court order was obtained by Marrache & Co, the solicitor acting for the receiver. Mr Clowes objected to the yacht being sold for less than the £2.5 million he paid for it.

Title fight on

Tonight's world title fight at the Elephant and Castle, London, between Brian Mitchell, of South Africa, and Jim McDonnell will go ahead.

FA defiance

The Football Association has invited Argentina to join England and Scotland in the Rous Cup next May despite Government objections... Page 48

£2m council house racket in Brent

By Howard Foster

Scotland Yard may be called in to investigate a scandal involving an illicit, international trade in council house tenancies in north London which is believed to have earned the organizers up to £2 million.

Students from Nigeria are among those who have "bought" tenancies in Brent for between £400 and £600, bypassing the 16,000 people on the waiting list.

The organizers of the racket are said even to offer package deals with the keys to flats in Brent, including airline tickets at a discount.

Yesterday, Brent council housing staff were organizing a complete check on its 21,000 council tenants. The council's audit division will decide within the next few days whether to ask police to investigate.

Those behind the tenancy transfers have remained undetected for so long because the council rarely checks on the identity of its tenants.

The system worked simply through a series of advertisements placed in shop windows, invited tenants who were considering leaving to contact someone who would offer them between £150 and £200 for the keys to the property.

The keys were then sold on to anyone prepared to pay up to £600 for the tenancy.

The new inhabitant would then adopt the name of the old one if it ever became necessary to contact the council.

One such advertisement invited outgoing tenants to contact a Mr James Jones who used an innocent accommodation address service in Ham-mersmith for messages.

A spokeswoman for the Council said on page 24, col 7

Israeli poll clouded by new raids

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israel's 2.8 million voters went to the polls yesterday against a background of continuing violence.

During the day Israeli planes launched another deadly attack on two refugee camps near Sidon, while Arabs ambushed a Likud Party campaign car travelling through east Jerusalem.

A woman in the car was seriously hurt and two male passengers were slightly injured.

The air raids hit known strongholds of the PLO in retaliation for Sunday's petrol bombing of a bus near Jericho in which an Israeli mother and her three children were killed.

Homes of the families of those who confessed to being involved in the Jericho attack have already been blown up or levelled by bulldozers.

Election-day raid, page 9

Thatcher's tough queries for Poles

From Richard Bassett, Warsaw

Within hours of arriving here today, Mrs Thatcher will come face-to-face with those who wish to convert Poland's ailing economy into a "model of Thatcherism".

The meeting will mark the start of a propaganda campaign which will continue throughout the Prime Minister's three-day visit.

For an hour this evening, she will meet the "Polish Thatcherites", who seek to introduce some private enterprise into Poland's over-centralized economy.

They will try to convince Mrs Thatcher that market forces are just around the corner in Poland, but she is not likely to be convinced.

Most Poles expect Mrs Thatcher to express clearly her disappointment in the Polish Government's failure to come to terms with the opposition, and in particular its torpedoing of round-table talks by announcing the closure of the Lenin Shipyard.

While the "Polish Thatcherites" try to convince Mrs Thatcher that the closure was "purely an economic measure", she will ask a number of questions which are likely to embarrass the authorities.

● Wideside plea: Campaigners fighting to prevent the closure of the North East Shipbuilders yard on the River Wear in Sunderland yesterday contacted Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, to enlist his support (Peter Davenport writes).

In response, Mr Walesa promised to make representations on their behalf to the Prime Minister when he meets her in Gdansk on Friday.

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Storm over Dukakis attack on Ulster justice

By Jamie Dettmer, Irish Affairs Correspondent

Governor Michael Dukakis, the Democratic presidential candidate, sparked a major political row last night in Britain after claiming that the legal system in Northern Ireland was unfair and "inconsistent with the basic principles of justice".

In a thinly veiled threat, he suggested that if he became President he would encourage US federal judges not to extradite IRA suspects to Northern Ireland if it meant that they would stand trial in Diplock courts.

Mr Dukakis also claimed in an interview in the Irish Echo that the British Government "holds itself above the law" in Northern Ireland.

He urged Mrs Thatcher to "prosecute those in the security forces who take the law into their own hands in circumstances that suggest a policy of shoot to kill".

The Governor's interview has been strongly condemned by Conservative MPs as "outrageous" and "ignorant".

Calm, confident Bush 11

Conor Cruise O'Brien 16

Mr Ivor Stanbrook, chairman of the Conservative backbench committee on Northern Ireland, said: "His ideas reflect a distorted view of what is happening in Northern Ireland. He has sunk so low as he is desperate to get any votes he can, even the votes of those most bigoted in the American-Irish community. I wel-

NEWS ROUNDUP

200,000 pupils hit by teachers' strike

More than 200,000 children missed school in Scotland yesterday as teachers went on strike in protest at the Government's proposed education reforms. The disruption, called by the Educational Institute of Scotland, the largest teaching union, meant that some schools remained partially open, others closed completely and a few worked normally. The EIS said more than 70 per cent of its members joined the day of action and up to 7,000 took part in rallies in Edinburgh organized as a protest against proposals that include the introduction of school boards and regular testing of primary school children. Mr Jim Martin, the union's general secretary, said the next education Bill would be designed to dismantle the comprehensive system through the opting out proposal — a move strongly hinted at by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Labour ban censured

The Labour Party and the TUC were criticized yesterday for boycotting the Government's Employment Training programme by the head of an organization which trains young adults of Afro-Caribbean and Asian descent. Mr Lambert Spencer, chief executive of Project Fulfillment, said the ban would be counter-productive. "I wish they had agreed to work with the programme to improve it. Working together, we would have stood a better chance of creating an effective training programme supporting those without jobs in finding employers without staff."

Work restrictions go

Women are to be allowed to work down mines and all restrictions on young people's hours of work are to be lifted, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, said yesterday. He said that the Government would legislate to reduce sex discrimination in employment and "outdated" restrictions on the employment of young people. In a parliamentary written answer, Mr Fowler said that his department had examined existing legislation for unnecessary requirements involving sex discrimination. "These will be removed."

Jury sent to hotel

A Central Criminal Court jury in the case of a solicitor and an estate agent accused of conspiracy to reach a verdict after six hours' deliberation. Mr Miles Seward, of Fern Park Road, Finsbury Park, and Mr Roger Brookhurst, a solicitor, of Rokesley Avenue, Hornchurch, both north London, deny conspiring to procure the execution of valuable securities between 1983 and 1986. The jury returns this morning to continue its deliberations.

Haughey discharged

Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, was discharged from hospital yesterday after suffering from a severe respiratory infection. However, he is unlikely to play an active part in government for another month. Mr Haughey was admitted to the Mater hospital on October 14 after experiencing breathing difficulties at his home in Kinsale, Co. Dublin. He had only left the hospital a few hours before. He had been at the hospital on his third visit that week for a long-running kidney stones problem.

Vauxhalls recalled

Vauxhall is recalling more than 170,000 cars after discovering a fault in the braking system. Brake checks are to be carried out by dealers free of charge on all Nova, Astra, Belmont and Cavalier models built between December 1987 and September this year. Engineers have identified a fault with the brake pressure proportioning valve which can become separated from the brake master cylinder mounted in the engine compartment.

UDA members jailed for transporting arms

By Jamie Dettmer, Irish Affairs Correspondent

Three members of the Ulster Defence Association received long prison sentences in Belfast yesterday for their part in transporting a huge arsenal of weapons for the "loyalist" paramilitary group.

David Payne, aged 40, was sentenced to 19 years, James McCullough, aged 36, and Thomas Aiken, aged 31, were jailed for 14 years each.

The case against the three took a turn when Payne said

he had been set up by two UDA leaders who wanted him out of the way because he had discovered their involvement in the murder last December by the IRA of Mr John McMichael, the UDA's deputy commander.

Michael Stone, accused of murdering three people during the funeral for the IRA trio shot by the SAS in Gibraltar, was committed for trial yesterday in Belfast.

Railway board abolishes pay bargaining

By Roland Ruid
Employment Affairs Reporter

The British Railways Board became the first big public sector corporation unilaterally to abolish national pay bargaining when it yesterday announced changes in its agreement with the rail unions.

In a meeting with the unions, management gave notice that it was planning to end centralized pay bargaining and split the industry into five sections, paving the way to privatization.

The move to terminate national bargaining, enshrined in the Railway Act 1921, signals a fundamental change in the industry, which is to be run as a group of businesses and production departments with new contractual responsibilities. From the end of 1989 most issues will be dealt with by managers talking to locally elected staff representatives.

Mr Jimmy Knapp, general secretary

of the National Union of Railwaymen, criticized the move as "recipe for chaos" and said he would call for a meeting of all the rail unions to organize an effective campaign of opposition to the changes.

"British Rail is trying to turn the clock back to the pre-1920s because ideological dogma is now more important to management than organized collective bargaining."

"I am firing the first warning shot that we are determined to defend the existing pay structure with all our means."

Mr Neil Milligan, general secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, said the changes were "a desperate move backwards" which could lead to different rates of pay throughout the country.

Both leaders are threatening to

propose. The Transport Salaried Staffs' Association is expected to take similar action.

In February this year the board set out proposals to give more authority to local production managers to streamline procedures for handling collective and individual issues.

Although the unions feared the proposals would lead to further moves to weaken collective pay bargaining, the speed with which yesterday's changes were released to the Press took the union leaders by surprise.

The five new units will be split across operations, civil engineering, signals and telecommunications, mechanical and business and finance and personnel. A small corporate personnel unit at the board will be responsible for overall advice.

There will still be provision for discussion between the area manager and full-time trade union officers to

help resolve problems but in the main most issues will be dealt with on a local basis.

Senior union officials fear that changes will lead to regional and merit pay. They believe management is determined to break the unions' centralized power before the industry is privatized.

A board spokesman said: "We felt that individual and local issues were often not dealt with quickly enough in the competitive climate in which the railway operates. We needed to change with the market."

The board is required by the present agreement to give 12 months' notice before ending the existing arrangements, which it did at a special meeting with the trade unions yesterday. It will use the intervening period to reach new procedural agreements with the unions and to train the personnel managers who will operate them.

Nurses allege back pay cheating

By Jill Sherman
and Ian Smith

The Royal College of Nursing has accused the Government of cheating thousands of nurses out of eight months' back pay.

The college said yesterday that many sisters are being graded on the lower F grade and told to compete for the 3,500 new Grade G posts, at a salary of £1,500 higher, which will take effect in January.

The claim came as two day hospitals on Tyne-side closed and operations at two hospitals near by were cancelled because of a work-to-rule over the clinical grading dispute.

Earlier this week 12 nurses at the West London Hospital walked out and industrial action is planned at other London hospitals. Nupe and Cohse, two health service unions, predict that the action will spread as nurses are given their individual gradings.

Operations on 21 youngsters at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital have been cancelled because of theatre nurses' dissatisfaction over regrading proposals.

Four operating theatres at the hospital in Fendebury will close for seven days from next Monday, forcing doctors to choose which essential operations must go ahead.

Mrs Val Burgoyne, local secretary of Cohse, said the nurses felt it would be unsafe to work overtime which would make them over-tired and endanger patients.

Across the country, some sisters in charge of wards have already been graded at G and will get back pay dating from last April, in line with all other nurses covered by the clinical grading review.

However, the Department of Health has advised that where two or more sisters are sharing responsibility they should compete for the new G posts in January which will not be backdated. They will instead get the lower back pay rate for the F scale.

Mr Trevor Clay, general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, accused the Government of deliberately introducing a new restructuring in January so that managers could avoid giving back pay. He said the Government would save at least £52,000 from the exercise.

Mr Clay said "insensitive management" was leaving many nurses "frustrated and dissatisfied" after this year's record 17.9 per cent award. He gave examples from hospitals in Cambridge and Birmingham of wards where every sister was being graded on the lower of two new grades.

"We think this is cheating sisters of £1,000 to £2,000 in back pay. The spirit and the intention of the exercise was to reward sisters and charge nurses for the work they were doing on April 1 this year."

The college said that Birmingham was not an exception and it had taken more than 1,000 phone calls complaining of similar problems.

Hopes are high of tracing education leak, say insiders

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Radical changes in the funding of higher education involving the introduction of vouchers and the charging of tuition fees remain on the political agenda. Mr Kenneth Baker said yesterday as he gave his first detailed response to the leaking of confidential ministerial papers advocating the drastic shake-up.

The Secretary of State for Education and Science said there would be an inquiry into how the papers by Mr Robert Jackson, the Under-Secretary for Education and Science who is responsible for higher education, and a Treasury letter came to be passed to the Labour Party. Mr Baker said he deplored the actions of whoever was responsible for the disclosure.

Describing himself as more leaked against than leaking, the Secretary of State said that the affair was important because "one always requires in government a degree of discretion and privacy in the discussion of policy".

Meanwhile, insiders were expressing some optimism that the Cabinet Office team of mole-hunters might this time identify the culprit.

Unlike the four other leaks this year, which have so far gone unexplained, Mr Jackson's two papers for a meeting of education ministers in July apparently had only limited circulation in Whitehall, so narrowing the field of inquiry.

Mr Baker said: "These were discussion documents prompted by the debate which is now going on in higher education about future funding policies for higher education institutions."

"I want this debate to mature and develop. Were there to be changes of this sort we would not reach a particular view and follow up with concrete action without very full consultation with the funding councils and with the leaders of the universities, polytechnics and colleges."

Vouchers worth up to £7,500 and fees of £500 are being proposed by Mr Jackson as a way of injecting extra cash into the higher education sector and of admitting more students.

Announcing level funding for universities over the next three years but a 9 per cent boost for polytechnics and colleges next year, Mr Baker

made it clear he was sympathetic to this approach.

"It's a very important debate. We do spend in this country a higher proportion of our gross domestic product on higher education than any country in Europe, yet we have one of the lowest rates of access to higher education in Europe."

The Secretary of State also reminded reporters that he had recently set up a small departmental think-tank under Mr Richard Bird, a senior official, to advise him on higher education policy.

Its initial remit covers consideration of a voucher scheme, improving access to further and higher education, and separate funding of university teaching and research.

Meanwhile, Tory MPs close to Mr Baker said he believed that the most annoying aspect of the leak was the way it created an "atmosphere of mistrust" within the department, with ministers feeling "inhibited" about committing their thoughts to paper and holding frank discussions about sensitive issues.

Loans for students, page 5

Italians control TV channel

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Super Channel, the British-based European satellite television channel officially launched in January 1987 by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, yesterday came under the control of an Italian media group.

After weeks of negotiations aimed at saving the heavy loss-making concern, Videomusic, the Italian rock music television station, took a 55 per cent shareholding and agreed to take on liabilities of around £8 million.

Mr Richard Branson's Vir-

gin group will retain its 45 per cent share in the company.

Super Channel, which was launched with the idea of providing the "best of British" to a pan-European audience, has accumulated losses of £60 million in the 21 months of its existence. Its programmes are distributed via satellite into 13 million European homes, mostly outside Britain.

Videomusic, owned by Beta Television, has bought shares from independent com-

panies who helped set up the satellite venture, including TVS, Yorkshire and Anglia who are the remaining major shareholders.

Independent Television News, which supplies a service to Super Channel for £1.9 million a year, is likely to benefit from the change. It provides four 15-minute bulletins a day and may be asked to provide more news at peak times as well as summaries. Media and Marketing, pages 32 and 33

Welsh celebration



The Queen talking to the Very Rev Michael Mayne, Dean of Westminster, before the service in Westminster Abbey.

History came full circle yesterday when the Queen joined 1,500 of her Welsh subjects in Westminster Abbey for a bilingual service to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the translation of the Bible into their native tongue.

It was Queen Elizabeth I who legislated that the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer be translated and used in Welsh in every parish where Welsh was spoken.

Eight hundred copies of that first translated Bible — a small, folio-sized book — were printed in 1588 and orders given by the Privy Council that

every parish church in Wales should contain one copy by Christmas.

Yesterday's service, attended by civic heads from all over Wales and by Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, the former Prime Minister, marked the publication of St David's Day this year of the Welsh New Bible, which took its panel of Welsh scholars 26 years to produce.

The Queen was presented with a facsimile copy of the 1588 Bible by Dr Brynley Roberts, librarian of the National Library of Wales. Service, page 18

Up to 80% rise in school meal prices

By Peter Davenport

School meal changes in Bradford are to go up next week, in some cases by as much as 80 per cent, as the first of the economic measures introduced by the new Conservative council takes effect.

The increased charges will bring in an extra £480,000 in the current financial year and will result in £1.46 million extra income in a full year.

Last night the Labour opposition predicted that the numbers taking school meals would decline and many children would go through the day without a hot meal.

Mr Tony Cairns, deputy leader of the Labour group in the council, said: "This is bad news all round."

"Many parents will simply not be able to afford the increased charges."

"This is really hitting at the

children, the most vulnerable members of society."

The city was the first local authority in England to serve school meals and the first in the UK to do so from a central, purpose-built kitchen. The service began on October 27, 1907.

Today it serves 41,650 meals a day in its schools: 14,000 are free, 24,000 paid for and the remaining 3,650 go to adults and staff.

Charges for meals are staggered according to age; children in first schools pay 45p a day, those in middle schools 55p and pupils in upper schools 60p. From next Monday they will all pay 80p a day.

Yesterday the Conservative group said the move would not affect children who received free meals.

Free meals are available to

children whose parents are on income support. The group said that until the previous Labour authority set staggered charges last year, rates had been uniform.

Charges had been increased regularly by 5p between 1979 and 1984, when they were frozen. Conservative officials said the change amounted to adding on 5p for each year in which the charge had not been increased under Labour.

Yesterday Mr Eric Pickles, Conservative leader of the council, responded to a request by Nalco, the local government union, for talks about plans to cut £5.8 million from the budget and shed about 2,500 jobs over five years.

"I am delighted they want to talk and get around the table. But we didn't go through 12 hours of hell at last

week's meeting to renegotiate our measures. However we are prepared to negotiate their implementation and methods of compensation."

He said the first 400 jobs were due to go next March.

Mr Pickles said he believed the figure would be achieved without compulsory redundancies.

Last night a spokesman for the Bishop of Bradford, the Rt Rev Robert Williamson, said a meeting was being arranged with Mr Pickles to discuss the likely impact of the economic measures.

The bishop has said the measures could cause "deep social divisions" in the city and is meeting leaders from all mainstream churches in Bradford on Friday to draw up a common front to combat the effects of the measures.

Former print men lose unfair dismissal claim

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Nearly 50 former print workers employed by the Express & Star, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, have lost their campaign to prove they were unfairly dismissed during a new technology dispute.

An industrial tribunal yesterday decided that Mr Mark Kersen, the newspaper's managing director, was fully entitled to describe the opposition by the National Graphical Association to new technology as being entrenched in "quaint old Spanish customs".

Yesterday, Mr Kersen said that the union, "behaving like King Canute", had sacrificed the jobs of its own members rather than face up to the reality of new technology and the threat posed by the newspaper's competitors.

He emphasized that during the negotiations over the in-

roduction of the company's plans to introduce single-keying, involving the direct typesetting of copy by journalists, the company had offered "jobs for life" to the men who would be affected.

"Unfortunately for them, the NGA was not prepared to give up its demarcation or surrender its power."

Six union men, representing the 49 striking members who were dismissed in April 1985, had sought compensation after accusing Express & Star management of adopting "muscle" tactics and riding roughshod over traditional methods of negotiation.

The tribunal report says: "We find that there was adequate warning of dismissal, full consultations with the union, adequate information and offers of consultation with the affected men."

"If she destroys education, she extracts the marrow from the bones of the Scottish nation, leaving our values and our institutions brittle so she can break us at will."

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Mother, stepfather accused

Child was 'beaten so badly nurse could not tell her colour'

By David Sapsted

A girl aged three, who was allegedly beaten to death by her mother and stepfather, was so badly injured when she arrived at hospital that a nurse could not tell what colour she was, Winchester Crown Court was told yesterday.

Sarah Worthington died 10 minutes after being admitted to St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, in October last year. Her body was covered with 61 marks, bruises and scratches, the court was told.

She had a seven-inch fracture on her skull but "was killed by a blow to her stomach so hard that her duodenum ruptured against her back", Mr David Effer, QC, for the prosecution, said.

Mrs Michelle Worthington, aged 22, the girl's mother, and Mr Stephen Thorpe, aged 23, with whom she lived, both of Clarendon, near Portsmouth, deny murder and charges of cruelty towards the girl.

Mr Thorpe, who the court was told had lived with Mrs Worthington for only three months before the child's death, also denied a charge of cruelty towards the child's stepbrother, Andrew, aged one.

The court was told that Andrew was covered in bruises so often that a cleaner at one of the properties where the couple lived had nicknamed him "Scarface".

Mr Effer alleged that Mr Thorpe had once put Andrew in a bowl of scalding water for wetting himself.

Sarah had gone to live with the couple, after staying with relatives, a few weeks before she died, the court was told.

Mr Effer alleged that during the two weeks before she died

she was the victim of severe and frequent beatings which her mother and stepfather had tried to explain in a string of excuses made later to the police.

"Her injuries could not have been caused in the way described but by repeated and multiple blows to the head and body over a period of days", Mr Effer said.

He said that 10 days before her death, she was seen with bruising to one eye and an injury to a cheek.

The next day her eye looked like "a golf ball". She was taken to a doctor who was told she had fallen off a bicycle.

Mr Effer said that two days later she was seen to have two black eyes that were so puffed up that her nose was barely discernible.

Mr Effer told the court that one explanation given was that the child was hyperactive and had fallen on bath taps.

On October 6, a doctor who was called to the couple's home had sent her to hospital. "Nothing but shock about the extent of this child's injuries was expressed by the nurse, the ambulance people and the doctors who had to treat her", Mr Effer said.

"According to the staff nurse who received her, it was impossible to tell the colour of that three-and-a-half-year-old girl, so severe were the bruises and swelling on her."

Mr Effer said that Mrs Worthington had told the police after Sarah's death that the child was never neglected or beaten but was in fact loved, looked after and spoiled.

He said the mother had told police officers that Mr Thorpe only met the child when she

came home from her stay with relatives. She had claimed he had "only smacked Sarah about the hand and that was rarely".

Miss Jane Davies, a cleaner, told the court she had never seen Andrew's face clear of bruises and had given him the nickname, "Scarface".

She told the jury that Mr Thorpe had handled the boy roughly and had caused him to cry.

When Sarah came home, she was quiet and, like her stepbrother, did not seem to want to know adults, Miss Davies said.

She said that the couple were strict with the girl. When she wanted to play with her toys, she had to go into the communal hallway.

Miss Alison Lowe, of Sutherland Road, Portsmouth, said she had a room in one of the houses where Mrs Worthington and Mr Thorpe stayed last year.

She said she had seen the boy bruised extensively about the head and body. Mrs Worthington had explained the injuries by saying that Andrew had climbed on a cabinet to get at a fluffy doll and had been bruised after falling off.

Miss Lowe said Mr Thorpe would flick the child's forehead for fun so that the next day there would be a bruise.

She told the court she had been told that Sarah had seen the film, *Nightmare on Elm Street*, on video film. She said Sarah had been warned often that if she did not go to sleep then Freddie, the child molester in the film, would come and get her.

The trial continues today.

Dancer scales new heights



The river Thames and Tower Bridge provide the backdrop for Scott Ambler, a member of the Extemporaneous Dance Theatre, to demonstrate his acrobatic agility and balletic skills in the company's aerial ballet, *Where The Moon Rises*, which had its premiere at the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, west London, last night (Photograph: Hugh Routledge).

'Surgery rape' teacher denies it was fantasy

By Michael Horsnell

A primary school teacher was so shocked when her physiotherapist allegedly raped her she could not scream and felt she was in a trance watching the assault take place.

She denied under cross-examination in the High Court in London yesterday that she had fantasized the whole incident three years ago at his surgery in Benfleet, Essex.

The teacher, now aged 25, is suing the physiotherapist, aged 47, for "trespass to the person" and seeking aggravated damages after a decision in 1986 by the Director of Public Prosecutions not to proceed with criminal action.

It is the first case in British legal history in which a civil claim for damages for rape has been launched when there has been no conviction in the criminal courts.

The teacher yesterday agreed with Mr Anthony Hidden QC, for the defendant, that in the statement of claim before the court she also alleged other acts of indecency which she had not reported to police at the time or for 12 months afterwards.

She denied inventing them but agreed that for a year she had forgotten them.

The first indecent assault allegedly happened at the physiotherapist's surgery on December 20, 1985, three days before the alleged rape occurred, and the second immediately after the rape.

Frequently in distress during her long cross-examination, she said: "I was in shock. I swear that when I saw the police after the rape I didn't remember the other incidents. They were out of my mind. That is the truth."

Asked whether she had difficulty in telling the difference between fact and fantasy, she vehemently denied it.

She agreed that in a state-

ment to police on January 1, 1986, she had specifically said the physiotherapist had not committed an indecent act on December 20 but said she had failed to remember it.

She was asked why, if the incident had occurred, she had returned to the physiotherapist for a further session of treatment to an injured shoulder three days later.

She said: "I tried not to go back. I pretended I was ill. My father made me go back. If I had told him what had happened he would have gone back and killed him."

The plaintiff added: "It was about two years after it happened that it all came back to me. I wasn't in a dream when it came back. I told my solicitor about the other incidents. I swear it is not invented."

In a statement to police nearly three weeks after the rape she agreed that she had said: "Although I was physically aware I felt I was watching the whole thing."

She told Mr Hidden: "I was completely disgusted by it and I didn't know people did things like that and I didn't know the words for them. The police didn't ask me. It was so revolting that I didn't say it."

"At no time did I scream or shout. I had lost my voice. It would not come out."

"I felt I was dreaming or in a trance, it did not feel real. That is what I said at the time. I was describing how I felt because I could not move. I did feel as if I was watching the whole thing, but it was happening."

Under re-examination later by Mr John Melville Williams, QC, for the plaintiff, she admitted that in her diary she said that she resented her mother for making her so naive. She had been brought up never to talk openly about sexual matters.

The case continues today.

Police cleared of blame

Misadventure verdict on fatal arrest

By Craig Seton

An inquest jury yesterday returned a verdict of misadventure on the fatal arrest of a 24-year-old man, who was strangled during a violent struggle with two policemen trying to arrest him.

The jury rejected a possible verdict that Mr Curbin had been killed unlawfully. It reached its decision unanimously after 3½ hours at the end of the seven-day inquest at Wolverhampton.

Immediately afterwards a solicitor for Mrs Esther McCurbin, the dead man's mother, said the family would consider going to the Divisional Court to have the misadventure verdict overturned.

Mrs McCurbin criticized the summing up by Mr Keith Swaine, the Wolverhampton coroner. She said: "Clinton did not have to die in the way that he did". No one in the

police had expressed sorrow or remorse to her until after the inquest, she added.

The inquest had been told that Mr Curbin, from Bovey Court, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, died in February last year during a struggle with PC Michael Hobday, aged 30, and PC Neil Thomas, aged 24.

Mr Curbin's death led to two days of rioting in Wolverhampton. The Director of Public Prosecutions decided there were no grounds for criminal action against the two officers and West Midlands police decided they should not be disciplined.

The policemen had been called to the Next fashion shop in the centre of Wolverhampton where Mr Curbin was trying to use a stolen credit card.

The inquest was told he put up a violent struggle and that he and the two officers fell to

the floor where attempts were made to restrain him. Two pathologists said he died through compression of the neck which obstructed his airway.

But PC Hobday, who weighed more than 17 stone, denied that he had held Mr Curbin around the neck and said his restraining arm held was around his head and chin.

The two officers attempted to resuscitate Mr Curbin in the shop, but he was found to be dead.

The coroner told the jury of seven women and three men there were three possible verdicts: misadventure, unlawful killing or an open verdict.

"In my view it would be unsafe and wrong even to find that the arresting officers misadvised themselves in any sense whatever. I consider a verdict of misadventure is

appropriate, but it is a matter for you alone."

Mr Swaine said that to return a verdict of unlawful killing the jury would have to be satisfied there was a "very high degree of negligence or recklessness".

He reminded the jury that officers were making a lawful arrest and were allowed to use reasonable force.

After the verdict, Mr Geoffrey Dear, the West Midlands chief constable, said that he could not guarantee categorically that such a tragedy would not happen again.

His force would strive to do everything possible to ensure that all its officers underwent training in how to control violent people during arrest.

The force was ensuring that all 6,500 officers would have undergone new training procedures in restraint techniques by the new year.

Koo Stark sues newspaper

Koo Stark, the actress and photographer, told the High Court yesterday she was horrified at newspaper allegations that she had an adulterous affair with the Duke of York.

She said allegations in *The Sunday People* that she had deceived her husband, Mr Timothy Jeffries, the Green Shield stamp heir, to carry out clandestine meetings with the Duke were "dreadful lies".

Miss Stark said: "When I read the first article I was hor-

rified. I was shocked. I did not know why they would want to write a story about me... I felt persecuted by them."

Miss Stark is seeking damages for two articles in *The Sunday People* in December 1985. Mr Desmond Browne, for Miss Stark, described them in court as a "Christmas present" to her from Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher.

Miss Stark, whose address was not disclosed, said she

read the articles to mean, "I was having an affair with Prince Andrew and I was being adulterous to my husband".

Miss Stark alleged the articles were a form of "blackmail" because she would not give an exclusive interview to the newspaper. She seeks damages from Mr Maxwell and Odhams Newspapers. The hearing continues today.

Better use of air space urged

From Shona Crawford Poole, Travel Editor, Jerusalem

Money earmarked by the Civil Aviation Authority for investment over the next decade would not solve problems of congested air space unless Britain joined a fully integrated European system, Mr Edward McMillan-Scott, European Parliament tourism spokesman, said yesterday.

He was speaking on the opening day of the Association of British Travel Agents convention in Jerusalem, where aviation issues were dominant.

Mr John Cox, chairman of the Air Transport Users' Committee, said failure to meet the natural demand for air travel, particularly in Europe, would destroy all the efforts made in the past 10 years to open the skies to competition and provide services at airports at prices they could reasonably afford.

He was not calling for a free-for-all but "a liberal environment with minimum regula-

tions that allows companies to operate commercially".

The European Community was working "slowly and deliberately", Mr Cox said. "Each move opens the door wider. And 1992 should take the door off its hinges."

But unless more runways were built and air traffic control improved to meet the increased demand that competition would bring, "the flag carriers will regain the initiative, re-establish their cartel and rip off the passengers".

Mr Cox also called for the development of more scheduled services from regional airports now used mainly by charter flights. He said next summer must not be like the one just past, the hard-won benefits of European liberalization must not be thrown away by "government cop-outs".

The number of aircraft in service was forecast to increase by 50 per cent by the year 2000, yet the British

Airport Authority and the Government maintained no extra runway capacity was needed in the South-east until the turn of the century.

"BAA's policy is due to its need to milk every drop of profit from its existing facilities for its shareholders, regardless of the public interest."

Delegates unanimously supported the call for speedy Government action on congested air space. Even Mr John Dunscombe, chairman of Abta's Travel Agents Council, who dismisses the Air Users' Council as "the CAA's deaf-aid to the consumer", agreed to back the call.

Maximizing the use of existing facilities was a persistent theme. Mr Charles Powell, of Air Europe, said Heathrow should be opened to charters when facilities were under-utilized. There were also calls for the new north terminal at Gatwick to be opened to holidaymakers.

knocked out and it will be a great evening", he said.

Mr David Whetton, the orchestra's managing director, added: "There will be no compromise on the choice of music. We firmly believe the people of Skegness are just as discerning as those on the South Coast."

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, under Vladimir Ashkenazy, will perform in Liverpool next October for the first time in more than 25 years since the days of Sir Thomas Beecham.

The London Philharmonic, under Klaus Tennstedt, includes Middlesbrough and Hull in its itinerary and the London Symphony Orchestra will replace the snooker tables at the Hexagon in Reading, as well as gracing the Warwick Arts Centre, in Coventry and halls in Sheffield and Nottingham.

Sotheby's stands by Stubbs

Mr David Moore-Gwyn, director of the British paintings department at Sotheby's, told the High Court yesterday that the "obvious quality" of two paintings, attributed by his company to George Stubbs, should have been apparent to the Surrey auctioneers who had valued them at between £30 and £50.

The two oils of foxhounds were sold at Sotheby's in March 1986 for £28,000, five months after they fetched £840 for their owner, Mrs Penelope Luxmoore-May.

Mrs Luxmoore-May, of Dunsfold, Surrey, is suing Messenger May Baverstock, the Guildford auctioneers, for the difference. They deny breach of duty and say the paintings are not by Stubbs.

Mr Moore-Gwyn told the court that Sotheby's was "fully satisfied" that they were Stubbs.

The case continues today.

Skegness warms to the delights of Prokofiev

By Andrew Morgan

Skegness, the bracing resort not readily linked with the high-brow, will next year experience an aesthetic upsurge with the arrival of the Philharmonia Orchestra. The concert forms part of a set of regional tours by London's four orchestras, announced yesterday.

The three-year programme, with joint sponsorship totalling £600,000 from the Arts Council and the Prudential Corporation, will centre on performances from the London Symphony Orchestra, the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the Philharmonia and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. They will play 30 concerts a year in the series, spread through 19 towns and cities.

Middlesbrough, Carlisle and Hull, not overburdened with performances by London orchestras, will respond to

programmes blending the established with the avant-garde. In its programme, the London Philharmonic will perform Mahler and a work by George Benjamin that he still has to finish.

But it is Skegness which will experience a quantum leap in talent when the Philharmonia, just back from Japan where seats cost £100 and one ovation lasted 43 minutes, arrives in Lincolnshire for a concert of Balakirev, Prokofiev and Stravinsky next October.

Mr Leslie Shepherd, director of leisure, agreed that the Embassy Centre usually puts on Danny La Rue or Freddie Starr but he was confident that the 1,068 seats would be filled, with people travelling up to 100 miles.

"Skegness has a music club but we could never finance an orchestra of this standing without subsidies. We are

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November 1 1988

Tories cheer an upbeat Lawson

Budget errors 'made worse'

No other major economy had such sound finances, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the Commons when he made his autumn statement.

He said that for the first time in 20 years public expenditure this year would be less than 40 per cent of national income.

He was cheered by Conservative MPs when he said that public expenditure for 1988-89 would remain at the forecast £167 billion.

Mr Lawson said that for this financial year, 1988-89, the public expenditure planning total now looked likely to amount to £153.5 billion, or about £13.5 billion less than was allowed for in the last public expenditure White Paper.

In other words, only about £250 million of the £3.5 billion reserve he had provided for was likely to be needed.

"The main reasons for this shortfall were the extra £1 billion in privatization proceeds and the reduction of social security spending of almost £1 billion as a direct result of the sharp drop in unemployment (four Conservative cheers) and a saving of some £750 million, largely due to extra housing receipts under the right-to-buy programme.

"Taken together with the strong growth in the economy this year and the containment of debt interest, now that the Budget is in surplus, this means that total public spending this year, even excluding privatization proceeds, will be less than 40 per cent of national income, the first time this has happened for over 20 years.

"Not so long ago, the share of national income spent by the state seemed to rise inexorably. Over the past six years, the trend has been decisively reversed."

Since 1982-83, public expenditure, expressed as a share of national income, had fallen by 7 per cent, the largest and longest sustained fall since the wartime economy had been unwound.

Over the past decade, public expenditure had grown by less than 1.5 per cent a year in real terms. That was exactly half the rate at which it grew over the whole of the immediately preceding decade.

"Looking ahead, Cabinet agreed in July that public spending over the next three years should keep as close as possible to the existing planning totals and should continue to fall as a share of national income. The plans I am about to announce meet both those objectives."

"For 1989-90, the planning total published in the last public expenditure White Paper was £167 billion. It will remain at £167 billion (Conservative cheers).

"This important outcome has been made possible, despite the many claims for increased public spending, by a rigorous reassessment of priorities, coupled with the continuation of two of the factors that have contributed to this year's shortfall: benefit savings from lower unemployment and increased

receipts from council house sales.

"For 1990-91, however, though these two factors will persist, the planning total has been set at £179.5 billion, some £32.5 billion more than the previously published figure. For 1991-92, the planning total has been set at £191.5 billion.

"These totals include the same level of reserves as in last year's plans, that is to say, £3.5 billion in the first year, £7 billion in the second year and £10.5 billion in the third.

"They also incorporate an unchanged estimate of privatization proceeds of £5 billion a year.

"Over the three survey years as a whole, the real growth in spending on programmes will be over 3 per cent a year. This can be afforded only because of the fall in the burden of debt interest brought about by the dramatic improvement in the Government's finances from budget deficit to budget surplus.

"As a result, overall public spending, excluding privatization proceeds, will rise by less than 2 per cent a year, well within the prospective growth of the economy as a whole. In other words, total public spending, including privatization proceeds, will continue to decline as a proportion of national income.

"But, at the same time, substantial additional funds have been made available for the Government's most important public expenditure priorities."

His figures all represented increases over plans in the last public expenditure White Paper.

An extra £1.25 billion was being provided for the NHS in England in 1989-90 and an extra £1.5 billion the following year. There would be corresponding increases in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Health authorities, on top of that, were expected to receive an extra £100 million a year from sales of surplus land.

Continuing the rate of cost-improvement savings achieved in recent years would produce an extra £150 million in 1989-90 and £300 million in the following year.

In addition, the Government was accepting the Government Actuary's recommendation, in report today, that NHS employers' superannuation contributions in England and Wales should be reduced, which would save the health service a further £300 million a year.

In total, the increases for the NHS in the United Kingdom as a whole would be more than £2 billion in 1989-90 and more than £2.5 billion in 1990-91.

"These are by far the largest increases the health service has ever received. Comparing next year with this year, the increase in real resources for the NHS will amount to some 4.5 per cent."

On roads, he said that an extra £220 million was being provided next year to build and repair motorways and trunk roads, and for strengthening bridges, with a further £260 million the following year.

"Gross provision for public



Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor (left), and Mr Gordon Brown, who clashed over the statement

sector housing investment is being increased by around £440 million in 1989-90 and £340 million the following year. But thanks to the success of the Government's right-to-buy policy, this is more than financed by extra receipts.

An extra £290 million had been made available for law and order in 1989-90 and £430 million in 1990-91, principally for a further expansion in the prison building programme. This would provide a further 3,000 places by 1991-92. Provision for local authority spending on the police had been increased by £240 million.

"Defence spending is to be increased by £150 million in 1989-90 and £600 million in 1990-91. These significant increases are designed to provide a firm framework for the next three years within which our defence programme can be planned with confidence."

Lower unemployment had saved more than £1.5 billion on the massive social security budget in both 1988-89 and 1989-90, but substantial increases in planned spending on other benefits, particularly for the disabled, meant that the social security programme would be only marginally reduced in 1989-90 compared with previous plans, and some £1.7 billion higher in 1990-91.

On science and technology, the balance of public support had been altered within an increased total. In particular, provision for spending by the Department of Education and Science had been increased by £120 million a year, with the science budget up by 16 per cent in 1989-90. This reflected the importance the Government attached to basic and strategic research.

More details would be published in the printed autumn statement next week.

The Government had conducted the usual autumn review of contributions in the light of advice from the Government Actuary on the prospective income and expenditure of the National Insurance Fund, and taking account of the statement last week on benefits, by Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services.

"The new plans imply an overall increase of £2.25 billion in public sector capital spending in 1989-90. This includes extra investment in hospitals, housing, prisons and roads. There is provision for higher investment by the nationalized industries, including further anti-pollution investment by the water authorities.

"That the Government has been able to strengthen its

"The lower earnings limit will be increased next April to £43 a week, in line with the single person's pension, and the upper earnings limit will be raised to £25 a week. The upper limits for the 5 per cent and 7 per cent reduced rate bands will also be increased, to £75 a week and £115 a week respectively. The upper limit for the 9 per cent rate for employers will be raised to £165 a week.

Statement wins welcome

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing, C), a former Treasury minister and chairman of the Treasury select committee, welcoming the statement, said: "It shows it is possible to combine tax cuts with specific increases in public expenditure and a far greater repayment of public debt than anyone expected at the time of the last Budget."

But Mr Nigel Griffiths (Edinburgh South, Lab) said that the savings indicated on the public services meant the future look bleak and Mr Rhodri Morgan (Cardiff West, Lab) said that unemployment was still twice what it was when the Government came to power.

priority programmes within an unchanged planning total for 1989-90 is, in large measure, a reflection of the success of its policies. The improved performance of the economy has eased pressures on a number of programmes, giving the Government more scope than ever before to shift resources where its own priorities, rather than circumstances, dictate."

However, because of the healthy state of the National Insurance Fund, this decision would not require any increase in contribution rates. Thus, the main Class 1 contribution rates would stay unchanged at 9 per cent for employers and 10.45 per cent for employees.

On the industry Act Forecast, growth this year looked to be turning out at 4.5 per cent compared with the 3 per cent growth he had forecast at the

time of the Budget. Investment was particularly strong, growing twice as quickly as consumption, with manufacturing investment expected to show the biggest rise of all, at 18 per cent. "Indeed, it is striking that total investment has grown almost twice as fast as total consumption over the whole of the past five years."

The continuing vigour of the economy was testimony to the transformation in the supply side of the economy, a transformation which had enabled the seven years to 1988 to record a combination of strong and steady growth unmatched since the war.

As a result, unemployment had been falling rapidly. Since the middle of 1986 it had fallen by nearly one million — the largest fall on record. "Over the past year unemployment has fallen faster in the UK than in any other major country."

Inflation, as measured by the retail price index, was likely to be a little over 6 per cent in the fourth quarter of this year. Part of the rise in recorded inflation reflected the impact on mortgage payments of the higher interest rates needed to tighten monetary policy and thus get inflation firmly back on a downward trend.

Excluding mortgage interest payments the RPI in the fourth quarter was likely to be around 5 per cent, compared with the 4 per cent rise in the RPI forecast at the time of the Budget.

Exports had continued to perform well, with manufactured exports up 7.5 per cent over the past year. Over the past seven years the UK's share of world trade in manufactured goods had remained steady after decades of decline.

However, with investment booming and consumer spending rising fast, total imports had grown even faster than exports, rising by 15 per cent in the year to the third quarter. This had led to a substantially greater current account deficit than he had forecast at the time of the Budget. For 1988 as a whole this now looked like turning out at some £13 billion, equivalent to 2.75 per cent of GDP.

The stronger than expected economic growth this year meant that total tax revenues were likely to exceed the Budget forecast by £3.5 billion. Both income tax and VAT had been "particularly buoyant."

In the Budget he had set a public sector debt repayment for 1988-89 of £3 billion, equivalent to 0.75 per cent of GDP. With the higher than expected Government revenues and lower than expected public expenditure, this year, the PSDR now looked likely to turn out at some £10 billion, equivalent to more than 2 per cent of GDP.

This would be the second successive year of debt repayment, something not achieved since records started in the early 1950s. Moreover, this year, the Budget would still be in surplus, by some £4 billion, even if there were no privatization proceeds at all. "No other major economy has such sound public finances."

Looking ahead to 1989, the economy was forecast to grow by a further 3 per cent, with domestic demand also up by 3 per cent. Once again, investment is expected to grow considerably faster than consumption, and once again unemployment was expected to fall.

The slower growth forecast for 1989 inevitably implied a marked deceleration during the year, particularly in domestic demand.

Thus, comparing the second half of next year with the second half of this year, overall growth was forecast at 2.5 per cent, and growth in domestic demand at only 1.5 per cent. The current account deficit was likely to fall only slightly, to some £11 billion, or 2.25 per cent of GDP.

Inflation, while it would inevitably continue to edge up for some months, was forecast to peak at some point in the middle of next year before falling back again to 5 per cent by the fourth quarter.

"In short, after two years of unexpectedly rapid expansion, growth next year is forecast to return to a sustainable level, and one which compares well with the economic performance of the 1970s, while inflation will resume its downward path."

"The public finances are in substantial surplus and will remain so, with public spending on priority programmes continuing to increase, while overall public spending continues to fall as a share of GDP, to a level in 1991-92 not seen for a quarter of a century."

Mr Lawson concluded: "The prospect that lies before us is yet further testimony to the success of the policies we have been pursuing these past 9½ years and will continue to pursue, and to the economic transformation those policies have wrought."

The autumn statement was immediately condemned by Mr Gordon Brown, shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, who said that it compounded the errors of the Budget and left Britain ill prepared for the 1990s.

Mr Alan Beith, Democrat spokesman on Treasury matters, said that there should have been an autumn Budget.

Mr Brown said that Mr Lawson had admitted that inflation would rise beyond 6 per cent by Christmas and the £8 billion trade deficit would be £13 billion by the year's end.

With imports rising this year by an astonishing 15 per cent, but exports only by 1.5 per cent, the devastating trade gap was now this Government's distinctive trade mark.

Inflation was almost twice the level in January and twice as high as any of Britain's competitors. Britain would actually have a higher inflation rate than any of its competitor countries in 1988 and well into 1989.

Far from being a temporary blip, 1989 would be the fifth year in which inflation would be above the European average. In 1984 and 1987, Mr Lawson had said that his aim was zero inflation. Did he think that promise was still credible when inflation was now higher than when he became Chancellor?

Last November, when inflation was 4 per cent, the Chancellor had said that the minimum figure for public spending next year would be £167 billion. After adjusting for the extra inflation that he had announced, that figure ought to be £172 billion.

There was therefore a shortfall in real terms of £5 billion. Would Mr Lawson confirm that by failing to allow for inflation there would be a real deterioration in essential public services?

The sum that Mr Lawson had provided today would barely cover basic inflationary pressures faced by health authorities, far less deal with the huge backlog of structural repairs.

When, last week, ministers awarded a 5.8 per cent increase to pensioners and only 4.7 per cent to families on income support, did they know they would have to announce this week that inflation was above 6 per cent and still rising and that therefore the standard of living of millions of citizens would inevitably fall?

Mr Lawson said that it was nonsense to say that next year there would be a real deterioration in public services. Spending on programmes next year was due to rise by 2.75 per cent in real terms.

The increase in real resources for the health service next year would be 4.5 per cent higher than this year — far more than anyone had hitherto suggested. Spending on health as a proportion of total spending was far higher than it had ever been under Labour.

'Our train needs are different'

Britain did not have the same need as France for a high-speed train on its side of the Channel tunnel, the Prime Minister told MPs at question time.

She was responding to Mr Robert Adley (Chatham, C), who said that there appeared to be no co-ordination between the British Government and British Rail and the French Government and SNCF on investment criteria for development and construction of rail services at each end of the line.

Mrs Thatcher: I would not accept that. There is co-ordination.

Car penalties increased

Motorists will face tougher penalties for traffic offences under regulations approved by Parliament late on Monday.

Under the Points (Alteration) Order, which comes into force next March, drivers convicted of careless or inconsiderate driving face a points penalty of between three and nine compared with two to five now.

The other increases are: Failing to stop after an accident, 8 to 10 from 5 to 9; failure to give particulars or to report an accident, 8 to 10 from 4 to 9; and driving without insurance, 6 to 8 from 4 to 8.

White Paper

A White Paper will be brought forward in the spring on the results of the Government review of the National Health Service, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, said.

Parliament today (2.30): Questions: Environment. Time-table motion on Lords. Amendments to the Firearms (Amendment) Bill. Debate on broadcasting and terrorism.

Lords (2.30): Copyright. Designs and Patents Bill. Commons amendments.

Kinnock launches benefit attack

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, accused the Prime Minister at question time of attempting to save money on Family Credit at the expense of the poor.

Mr Kinnock: There is conclusive proof that Family Credit reaches 30 per cent of the eligible families. When a targeted benefit misses 70 per cent of the very people it is supposed to help, had not the Prime Minister better do something about her aim?

Mrs Thatcher: We are having a very major effort to get more people entitled to Family Credit receiving Family Credit. That will mean among other things a major programme of television advertising and I hope he will not then object to the expenditure.

Mr Kinnock: At the outset the

Government only budgeted for 60 per cent take-up. Actually, take-up has been half that. Does that cause the Prime Minister and the Government any regret?

Mrs Thatcher: More money is being spent on the poor and not on the better off. People can claim Family Credit for a family with two children up to an income of £9,300 a year. I would hope he would join the Government to get those entitled to Family Credit to go along and claim it. If he will not, why not (Conservative cheers)?

Mr Kinnock: I am rather more in favour of the poor getting money than the Prime Minister is on the basis of her record (Conservative protests).

Mrs Thatcher: Never has more been spent on social security payments and on the health service than now.

Mr Kinnock: At the outset the

'Local' pay on the way

Commonsense dictates that the Department of Health will begin to reflect local variations in pay and conditions in pay awards, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, said during question time.

Mr Nicholas Soames (Crawley, C) said that there was great difficulty for nurses moving to the South because of the high costs of housing and living. The time was fast approaching when they would have to move to regional pay.

Mr Clarke agreed and said that it was necessary to recruit and retain people in all parts of the country. Costs varied from place to place.

The department had included the suggestion in its evidence to the pay review.

Mr Stanley Orme (Salford East, Lab) said that there was anger and dismay among nursing sisters at the effects of regional pay.

HEALTH

We had plainly reached the stage where continued negotiation was getting us nowhere.

I look forward to meeting the staff side at some time in future when we have a sensible agenda.

Replying to a later question, Mr David Mellor, Minister of State for Health, suggested regional pay variations to solve recruitment problems for medical physics technicians.

He told Mr Paul Boateng (Brent South, Lab) that as a fellow inner London MP he was aware of the recruitment difficulties for medical technicians and the problems with other staff who did not benefit from the review body system. "We want to try to address that."

The nurses' pay review had included 9 per cent for working in inner London. That was the beginning of a move towards regional pay.

Rate Support Grants Bill: Second reading

Measure to protect Exchequer from creative accounting

Some of the following report of the later stages of Monday's debate in the Commons appeared in later editions yesterday.

The Government had a majority of 54 at the end of the debate on the second reading of the Rate Support Grants Bill. Voting was 252 to 198.

The Bill, according to the Government, provides for the orderly transition of local authority finances from the existing rating system to the community charge, which comes into operation in April 1990.

It is also intended to protect the Exchequer from creative accounting by local authorities in an attempt to get more money from central government.

At the end of the debate, Mrs Virginia Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, said that the Government would issue a consultation paper this month setting out in full its proposals for a settlement of the rate-support grant next year, and it proposed to make the settlement itself before Christmas.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposi-



Mrs Bottomley: Consultation paper this month

sition spokesman on the environment, said that, as a result of the Bill, some local authorities would end with windfall gains but others would incur unprecedented losses.

Police forces in London, the metropolitan areas and North-

umbria could lose £18 million. Every shire county was also a potential loser. This was at a time of great pressure on police resources. And the police had not been accused of "nipping off" the system by creative accounting.

"What greater encouragement can there be than for vigilantes to take to the streets?"

In London, vigilantes imported from the United States had tried to patrol the streets and the Underground, and no minister yet had moved to control such patrols.

In Birmingham, there had been support from a Conservative councillor. In Tyne and Wear, neighbours had called in private security firms to patrol their streets.

There was a feeling that local government was now regarded as an agency to provide services dictated from the centre. That view should be rejected by all democrats.

"A unitary state will end as a dictatorship if there is no freedom in the localities. It naturally follows that, if there is no freedom in the localities, all the power goes to the centre and dictatorship is the inevitable consequence."

The Metropolitan Police stood to lose £11.5 million in

COUNCIL CASH

potential grant entitlement, and Greater Manchester £1.7 million. Other areas were in similar situations.

Vigilante patrols were really nothing more than large-scale corruption rackets, taking money from people who would otherwise be paying their taxes and getting services from a professionally trained police force.

The charges for local government were designed to undermine, not underpin, democratic local government.

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"A unitary state will end as a dictatorship if there is no freedom in the localities. It naturally follows that, if there is no freedom in the localities, all the power goes to the centre and dictatorship is the inevitable consequence."

Mr Cyril Patrick (Sheffield,

Halifax, C) said that the community charge would mean that every voter would know how his money was spent and how much that would be with a sensible council providing a reasonable level of services.

Mr Matthew Taylor, Democrat spokesman on local government, said that many well managed honest councils of different political complexion would be affected by the rigidities of the Bill.

It was helpful to know in advance exactly how much money would be received by local authorities. But many councils which had primed their budgets carefully would be jeopardized by the new method of setting rate-support grant.

Mr Robin Squire (Hornchurch, C) said there was bound to be an element of rough justice, but he hoped that consideration would be shown by a few authorities suffered unduly.

Mr Peter Turrenham (Bolton, North East, C) said that councils would now be under the sort of pressure for efficiency that the private sector had faced for many years.

Mr Marcus Fox (Shipley, C) said that the present rate-support system had outlived its usefulness. He welcomed the orderly transition that was intended.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) said that he shared the wish for a simpler system of local government finance, but this was not the way for it to be done. Some provisions in the Bill were iniquitous and inequitable and would be opposed.

The Bill imposed on local authorities a retrospective set of injustices. Some would have windfall gains and many others would have unjust and unjustifiable losses.

Mr Max Maddes (Bradford West, Lab) said that most Bradford people felt cheated and betrayed by the way in which the Conservatives there had sought to manipulate democracy and to introduce controversial and unpopular policies.

The Tory Party in Bradford had been dishonest in concealing their plans from the electorate in elections.

Mrs Teresa Gorman (Biller-

sey, C) said that she was not euphoric about the £1 billion extra that the new system would cost. That money would be better left in the pockets of taxpayers.

Mr Martin Brandon-Brave (Nottingham South, C) said that the rate-support grant should have been abolished years ago. In the past all councils had used creative accountancy to some extent. The Government was right to stop it.

Mr Robert G. Hughes (Harrow West, C) said that the Bradford revolution could be repeated in any of the northern cities and Labour was desperately worried about its votes in these areas because the Conservatives would bring such success to the economy of that city.

Mr William O'Brien, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, described the Bill as "cruel and dishonest" and said that it restricted local government in its efforts to provide the services that people relied on.

Streets needed to be cleaned and to have proper lighting, and decoration must be attacked.

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THE AUTUMN STATEMENT

Chancellor predicts growth will slow to 3% next year

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

Mr Nigel Lawson presented an outlook for the economy yesterday in which his policy of high interest rates and public spending restraint will produce a slow-down in growth to a more sustainable level next year. The Chancellor's autumn statement forecast the economy's overall growth rate at 3 per cent for 1989. He estimated growth of 4.5 per cent this year compared with 4 per cent last year.

Mr Lawson said that to achieve this slowdown the deceleration in the economy, and in particular of domestic demand, is likely to be sharp. This in turn suggests high interest rates will be maintained and that the Budget next March will be a highly cautious affair.

"No other major economy has such sound public finances", he said,

announcing the public sector debt repayment this year will be £10 billion, rather than the £3 billion he predicted at the time of the March Budget, and that a similar "surplus" is on the cards for the next financial year, 1989-90.

The surplus is because of buoyant tax revenues and an undershoot in public spending. This financial year's planning total for public spending, predicted in January to be £156.9 billion, is now estimated at £153.6 billion. The £3.3 billion undershoot is mainly due to £1 billion on extra privatization proceeds. There have also been extra receipts from council house sales which have helped to trim the housing budget by £970 million.

In addition, there is now £900 million less of social security spending estimated for this year, largely because of falling unemployment.

For next year, the Treasury caused considerable surprise by announcing a planning total of £167.1 billion, unchanged on previous plans. Government

Financial targets set for the electricity industry for 1989-90 announced yesterday confirm that price rises of around 6 per cent will be announced shortly, coming into effect next April. Government support for British Coal is being cut back as the industry improves efficiency. It is receiving £750 million a year to meet a big investment programme, but in 1988-90 will get £560 million. Among other industries making a payment to the Government will be the Scottish electricity industry (£60 million), Post

Office (£91 million), Scottish Transport Group (£5 million) and British Shipbuilders (£61 million). Nationalized industries apart from British Coal receiving government support will be British Rail (£439 million), British Waterways Board (£48 million), Civil Aviation Authority (£47 million), London Regional Transport (£287 million) and the water industry in England and Wales (£40 million). Overall the nationalized industries will make a £35 million contribution to the Government.

Expectations on privatization proceeds

have been raised to £6 billion for the current financial year, an increase of £1 billion. The increase is in anticipation of the first instalment payments in the shares sale at British Steel, flotation of which is later this month. Only the first instalment is expected to fall into the current year. For the next three years privatization proceeds are anticipated at £5 billion a year. Before 1991-92, the privatization of water is scheduled, which is likely to raise up to £6 billion. Electricity privatization should just fall within the period.

growth slows sharply, from 12 to 4.5 per cent. The Chancellor's forecast showed the deficit on the current account of the balance of payments declining from its record £13 billion this year - 2.75 per cent of gross domestic product - to £11 billion next year.

Just as the current account deficit this year has turned out far higher than

expected - the Budget forecast was £4 billion - so inflation has increased to well above Treasury projections. The new forecast is for 6.25 per cent average inflation in the fourth quarter of this year, against 4 per cent predicted in the budget. Without recent mortgage rate increases, inflation would be 5 per cent in the fourth quarter, he said.

Next year, inflation is predicted to continue its rise until around the middle of the year - although no figure was given for its likely peak - before coming down to 5 per cent by the end of the year.

The Treasury expects unemployment to continue to fall next year, but at a slower rate than over the past two years.

The economy's slowdown and the assumption that privatization proceeds will continue to be £5 billion a year, will mean higher public spending in future years. The planning total for 1990-91 is £179.4 billion, an increase of £3.3 billion on previous plans. The target for 1991-92, set for the first time, is £191.6 billion.

Hospitals saved by 'spectacular spending boost'

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Health authorities are to get an extra £1,098 million next year, representing a rise in real terms of 3.5 per cent.

Announcing what he described as a "quite spectacular boost for health service spending", Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, emphasized that the extra money was on top of the £940 million already allocated for the nurses' pay award which had been included in this year's figures.

Health service finance officers said that the new money, much higher than expected, would help to prevent bed closures and allow for developments in the health service for the first time for years.

Mr Clarke announced that total government spending on the NHS in England would rise by £1.6 billion including £330 million for family practitioner services, which rise by 2.5 per cent in real terms to £4.5 billion, and £80 million for capital spending. Net spending on health and personal social services will rise from £21.7 billion in 1988-89 to £23.2 billion in 1989-90.

However, Mr Clarke made it clear that he also expected health authorities to find £150 million in cost improvements and £25 million in income generation schemes which would boost total spending to £1.8 billion.

Mr Clarke explained that part of the apparent windfall for health authorities was due to a recommendation from the Government Actuary to reduce employers' superannuation contributions from 7 per cent to 4.5 per cent. That will raise £300 million

already exempt from charges with only six out of every 10 people having to pay £3 every six months for a dental check-up and up to £10 for an eye test. He hoped that the full funding of the nurses' pay award would help prevent ward and bed closures.

He warned that health authorities should not be tempted to think that, given next year's boost, they no longer had to become more efficient. "It becomes even more important to ensure that we get every last penny of value out of these colossal sums we are pumping in."

"I am determined to ensure that the new money is used for the benefit of patients. No one in the NHS should believe that the new funds can be used to avoid difficult decisions or to relax in the search for greater efficiency."

Mr David Poynton, chairman of the Health Care Financial Management Association, welcomed next year's spending plans. "It should prevent cuts and closures and will allow authorities to further develop services."

"It is particularly significant in that it will allow authorities to be much more positive than they have been in the past three or four years."

Spending on personal social services will rise to £124 million in 1989-90, an increase of £9 million over the planned level for 1988-89. Two new specific grants are to be introduced next year, however, to support spending on services for Aids and HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) related conditions and for training social services staff working with children.

Mr Baker said that the grant for universities next year (89-90) will rise by £27 million to £167.2 million, which is roughly in keeping with the rate of inflation as assessed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at 5 per cent.

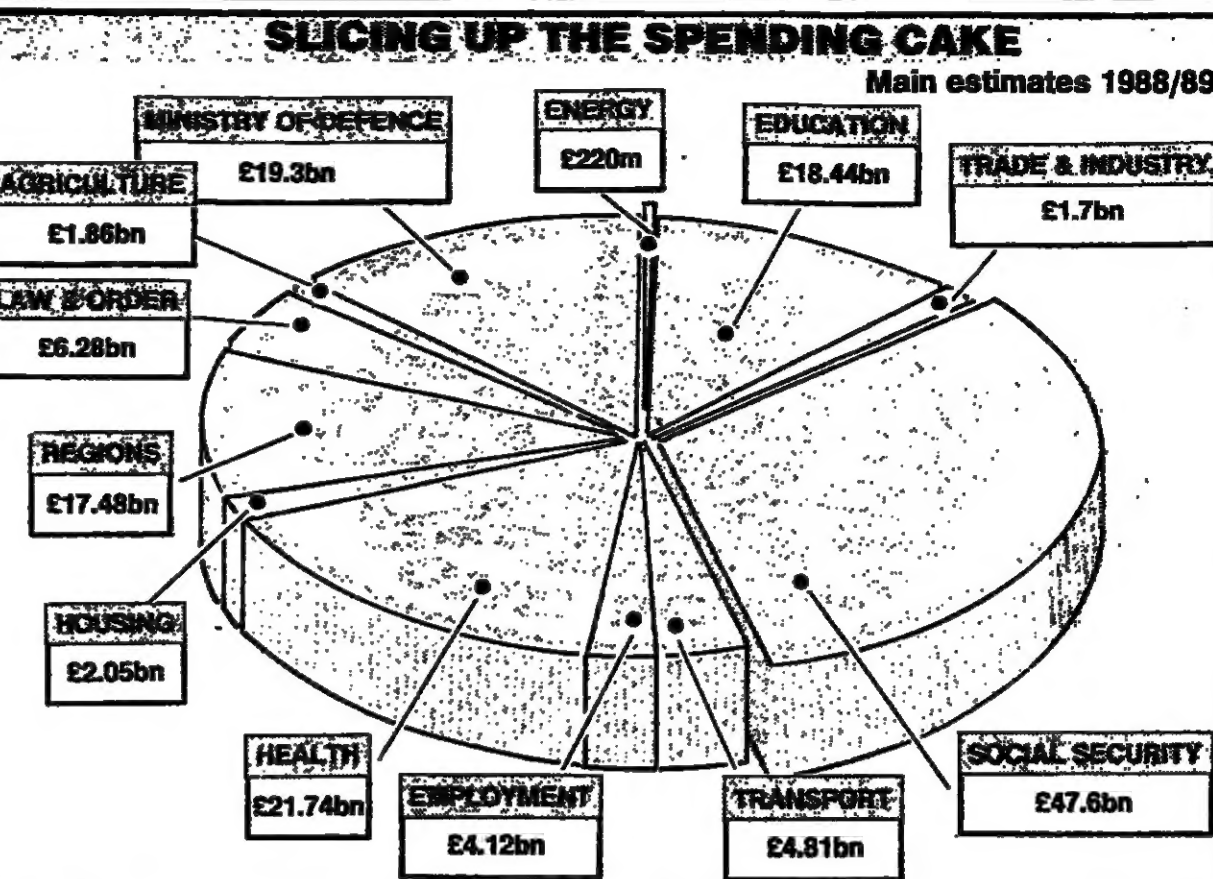
Polytechnics will receive £103 million from the newly formed Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council in current expenditure, as well as £84 million for capital, and £60 million to be spent on bringing equipment up to date.

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Schools win cash but silence on pay

By Douglas Broom
Education Correspondent

Spending on schools in England will rise by 7.2 per cent next year in what Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, described yesterday as "a good deal for education".

Mr Baker said £940 million would be available for schools in the year beginning next April, as he announced details of the Government's plans for spending on schools and local authority colleges.

Education authorities will be allowed to spend £352 million on capital works to improve existing schools and colleges, a broadly similar amount to this year, allowing for inflation.

Mr Baker told a press conference that he believed the figure was big enough to enable the programme of improving old and dilapidated schools to be completed.

term Advisory Committee, which has the job of recommending next year's teachers' pay rise, to stick within the cash limit imposed upon it.

In addition there would be £90 million spread over three years from next April to cover the cost of introducing the National Curriculum - the centrepiece of the Government's Education Reform Act.

On top of that there would be £90 million next year in Education Support Grants and £65 million for teacher training to implement other aspects of the reform package.

The present record low pupil-teacher ratio of 17 to one would be maintained and there would be "substantial real increases" in spending per pupil on books, equipment and support staff in schools.

he expected improved efficiency to result in a worsening of the present staff-student ratio of 8.8 to one to about 9.4 to one by the end of the next financial year.

Mr Baker said his overall spending package would allow for new school places to be provided in areas of population growth.

Universities are to receive an extra £100 million over the next three years, which allowing for inflation means their coffers will remain at the same level (Sam Kiley writes).

Mr Baker said yesterday that the grant for universities next year (89-90) will rise by £27 million to £167.2 million, which is roughly in keeping with the rate of inflation as assessed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at 5 per cent.

Polytechnics will receive £103 million from the newly formed Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council in current expenditure, as well as £84 million for capital, and £60 million to be spent on bringing equipment up to date.

Mr Baker said that the Exchequer will also increase Open University funding by 4.2 per cent, and set aside £3 million for the Computer Board.

Younger outlines 'a unique deal'

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, said yesterday he had won a unique deal from the Treasury, allowing the defence budget to rise by about £1 billion a year over the next three years.

Mr Younger has been given a further £750 million above previous plans over the next two years (£150 million in 1989-90 and £600 million in 1990-91). It has also been agreed that the 1991-92 Budget will be £910 million above the previous year's figure.

The total extra money of £1,660 million over three years means that Mr Younger has succeeded in changing the Government's previous policy which was for the defence budget to rise only in relation to the inflation rate.

Instead of a no-growth de-

fence budget, it will now increase in real terms in 1990-91 by 1.7 per cent and in 1991-92 by 1.3 per cent. The 1989-90 budget will show a decrease in real terms of 0.7 per cent.

However, Mr Younger said it was estimated that the Ministry of Defence had underspent this year by £446 million and that could be carried over to the next year.

He said the growth in the budget meant that he could dispense with any idea of having a defence review. The trump card for Mr Younger was the political argument that Britain had to show to her Nato partners that she was committed to genuine growth in defence spending.

No insurance surprise

By Vivien Goldsmith, Family Money Editor

The national insurance limits and payment rates announced yesterday by Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, contain no surprises.

The lower limit rises by just over 4.8 per cent from £41 to £43 to mirror the new single person's pension.

The upper earnings limit, roughly 7.5 times the lower limit, goes up from £305 a week to £325. This is a rise of more than 7.5 per cent because

NEW NI CONTRIBUTIONS

Weekly pay	% contributions	Employee	Employer
Under £43	5	5	5
£43-£74.99	5	5	5
£75-£114.99	5	5	5
£115-£164.99	9	9	9
£165-£325	9	10.45	10.45
Above £325	9%	9%	10.45%

PUBLIC SPENDING 1987-1992

Department	1987-88 outturn	1988-89 estimate	change	1989-90 plans	1990-91 plans	1991-92 plans
MoD	18,853	19,300	450	20,120	21,180	22,000
FCO Diplomatic	660	750	90	770	810	850
FCO Overseas Dev.	1,303	1,480	180	1,540	1,630	1,680
EEC	1,064	950	-710	1,970	1,950	1,580
Agriculture	1,976	1,880	-110	1,950	2,160	2,350
DTI	728	1,700	980	1,360	1,340	1,180
ECGD	151	110	-40	180	120	60
Energy	228	220	-10	250	-510	620
Employment	3,915	4,120	210	4,020	3,980	3,960
Transport	4,586	4,810	230	5,380	5,540	5,860
Environment - Housing	2,897	2,050	-840	1,710	2,040	2,380
Environment - Other	3,640	4,380	740	4,480	4,560	4,700
Home Office	5,702	6,280	580	6,900	7,220	7,380
Legal	783	960	180	1,080	1,170	1,240
Education and Science	17,081	18,440	1,360	19,570	20,240	20,770
Arts and Libraries	889	980	90	980	1,010	1,050
Health	19,716	21,740	2,020	23,180	24,380	25,380
Social Security	46,249	47,800	1,400	51,000	55,300	58,700
Scotland	8,087	8,720	630	8,570	9,140	9,680
Wales	3,330	3,600	270	3,790	3,900	4,010
N. Ireland	4,926	5,160	240	5,470	5,680	5,910
Lord Chancellor	3,432	3,670	240	4,080	4,280	4,490
Others	296	380	70	320	340	350
Reserve	0	0	0	3,500	7,000	10,500
Privatisation proceeds	-5,161	-6,000	-840	-5,000	-5,000	-5,000
Adjustment	0	330	330	0	0	0
PLANNING TOTAL	145,740	153,600	7,860	167,100	179,400	191,800
Government debt interest	17,528	17,700	200	17,000	16,000	15,500
Other adjustments	8,230	9,800	1,400	9,500	9,500	9,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	171,498	180,900	9,400	193,700	205,000	216,000

Jail building programme to be accelerated

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government's drive to beat prison overcrowding and put extra police on the streets is stepped up further with more increases in spending.

An extra £370 million over the next two financial years will accelerate the jail building programme in England and Wales. As a result, 3,000 additional places will be provided over and above the 7,000 already planned in the next three years.

New prisons and additions to existing ones will mean more than 25,000 new places becoming available by 1995. Eight new prisons have

already opened and another 18 are in the pipeline.

At least two further prisons, and may be some purpose-built remand centres, will be financed from new money now available.

A package of other measures to reduce pressure on prisons includes: 500 extra places in bail hostels as an alternative to remands in custody; 20 new bail information schemes to help courts to decide whether to grant bail; and more intensive probation as part of punishment in the community,

including 30 new day-centres. The aim of the package is to reduce demand on prisons by about 1,000 places in 1991-92.

An additional 300 police officers posts are being created in provincial forces on top of the 800 already planned. There will be additional "substantial" increases from 1990-91 onwards. The Home Office blames the need for extra police on public order, drugs and terrorism problems. More civilians are being recruited to free uniformed officers for operational duties.

Police officer establishments will rise to an average of 125,650 in 1989-

Cash injection to build motorways

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, has won substantial extra resources for Britain's motorway and trunk road programme.

Nearly £3 billion is to be spent on building and improving such roads in the next three years. After allowing for value-added tax on new road construction from next March, spending on roads will rise by 40 per cent.

An extra £220 million above previously planned spending levels has been earmarked for 1989-90, with a further £250 million granted for 1990-91.

The additional resources mark an unexpectedly successful outcome for Mr Channon in his recent negotiations with the Treasury.

A spokesman for the British Road Federation said the announcement was "probably the best news for British road-users for years. I think it shows recognition of how important it is to get a decent road network in place to meet the challenge of the 1990s."

British Rail is to increase its

investment next year by £200 million, with further increases to follow, while reducing its requirement for external finance by £439 million.

The Civil Aviation Authority was given the go-ahead yesterday to more than double its borrowings to overcome congestion at airports and in the skies (Harvey Elliott writes).

Mr Channon had pressed the Chancellor to increase the CAA's borrowing limit from £20 million to £47 million next year so it could bring forward plans to provide new computers at the London Air Traffic Control Centre and reorganize air traffic control procedures.

The authority now plans to spend £208 million over the next three years as part of a 10-year programme to ease congestion.

The Chancellor also gave approval for work to begin on a second terminal at Manchester airport.

£306m to boost science budget

By Thomson Prentice
Science Correspondent

Science will receive £306 million more in government funding in the next three years than had been proposed, Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced yesterday.

The science budget in 1989-90 will be 16 per cent higher than this year. Mr Baker said an extra £14 million for basic science in research councils and universities would be made available immediately.

He said that among projects to benefit from the extra £306 million would be environmental research, particularly investigations into the depletion of the Earth's ozone layer and its effects on climate.

The British Antarctic Survey, which is involved in the research, is likely to receive a big boost in funds. "I don't think enough people know about our strong research presence in the Antarctic. It is one of the jewels in the crown", Mr Baker said.

The science budget in 1988-89 is £708 million. This will rise to £825 million in 1989-90, £837 million in 1990-91 and £855 million in 1991-92. Previous proposals for the next three years were £729 million, £731 million and £750 million.

Mr Baker said he would make a further announcement shortly on the detailed implications of the science budget. The Advisory Board for the Research Councils will be invited to allocate the money available.

He said: "I think scientists will be well pleased with the increases I have announced here. These were needed and I am very glad to have got them."

Sir David Phillips, ABRC chairman, said later: "The settlement which Mr Baker has achieved for science is very encouraging indeed."

More cash for construction of factories

By Sheila Gunn
Political Staff

Factory building in Wales and Scotland received a boost in the public spending round.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, said a £270 million programme for clearing derelict sites, building factories and improving the environment was a record.

The total Welsh budget next year will be £3.79 billion, a rise

of 9.8 per cent on earlier forecasts. It includes £212 million for Welsh industry.

The Scottish Development Agency hopes to receive a further £5 million on top of its £145 million budget.

The annual increase for Scotland will be 6 per cent, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, confirmed yesterday, an effective increase of £514 million.

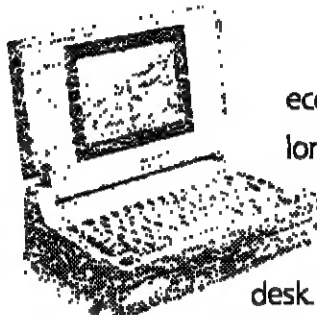
Northern Ireland public spending will rise by £300 million to £5.4 billion, with a big part of the budget being allocated to the fight against terrorism. Public spending will rise to £5.6 billion in 1990-91.

Legal aid bill nears £600m

The legal aid bill is expected to rise to nearly £600 million next year and by 1991-92 to have reached £680 million, according to the autumn statement (Frances Gibb writes).

The rising workload of the courts and burgeoning legal aid bill has prompted the Government to revise spending plans for both items upwards by a total £30 million and £40 million respectively for 1989-90 and 1990-91. For legal aid, there is a new provisional budget figure of £590 million for 1989-90, and for the courts, £250 million.

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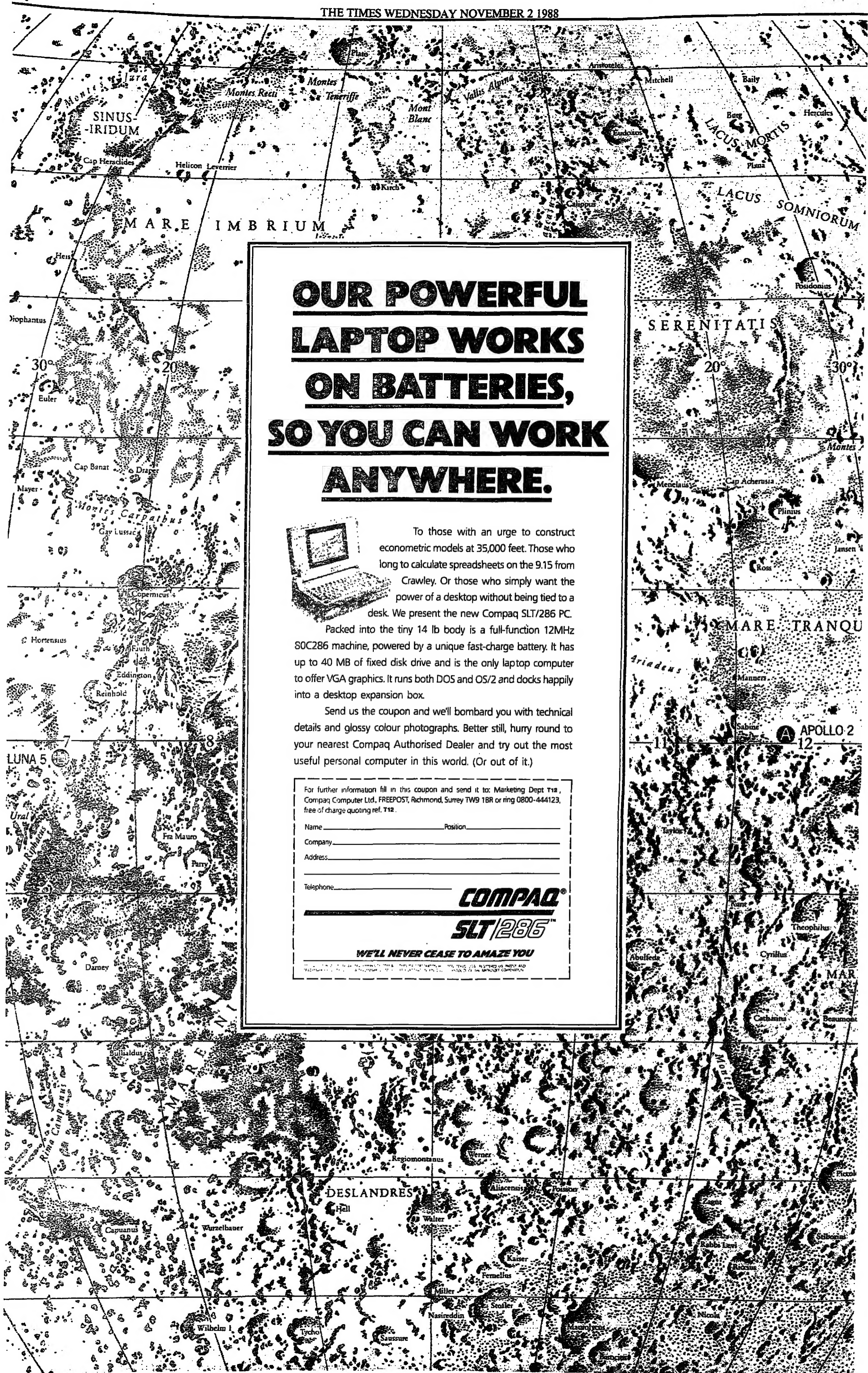
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Donaldson calls for curbs on access to civil appeals

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Greater restrictions on the right of litigants to bring cases to the Court of Appeal without first obtaining leave were called for yesterday by the Master of the Rolls.

Lord Donaldson of Lynton proposed the reform in the week when for the first time two Court of Appeal judges have been "laid off" because of a lack of courtrooms.

More "lay-offs" are likely early next year, he says in his review of the court's civil division work for 1987-88.

The proposed restrictions are part of a package intended to improve efficiency. The court has a shortage of qualified back-up staff which is leading to "administrative mistakes which would not otherwise occur".

The number of Court of Appeal judges rose to 20 last January, yet there were fewer

retired Lords Justices of Appeal available to help.

The court manages to "maintain its traditional standard of service to the public but is unable to improve it", Lord Donaldson says.

The number of appeals outstanding at the end of the year was 977, compared with 954, 953, 974 and 924 in previous years. "At best, the figures suggest that the court is holding its own."

But there has been a "startling increase" in the number of long appeals or groups of appeals, a total of 46 (compared with three the year before) which took up 270 days, 196 in open court.

Lord Donaldson suggests one way to eliminate hopeless appeals might be to extend the need to obtain leave. Such leave, either from the trial judge or from the Court of

Appeal, is required in about half the appeals coming before the court.

"It is for consideration whether this should not be extended", he says. "It is no kindness to allow an appeal to go forward which will quite clearly fail and the hearing of hopeless appeals causes delay in the hearing of other appeals which have real merit."

The argument against is that nobody's rights should be finally determined by a single judge, he says. Yet that is what sometimes happens when people apply for leave to appeal.

He suggests more pre-reading of papers by judges and early delivery by counsel of the "skeleton arguments" would reduce delays.

Lord Donaldson has also put to the Lord Chancellor the "pressing need" for the appointment to the court of a

small staff of qualified lawyers to advise on likely time needed for a case or likelihood of settlement.

Such lawyers would review all appeal papers and ensure the facts were there before the appeal was listed rather than leaving the judges to discover the gaps in the hearing.

They would also sift the papers of litigants who bring cases in person and summarize the facts and the law.

At present such papers are often inadequate and the judge has to spend time trying to find out what the appeal is really about.

The Civil Appeals Office is "tiny", Lord Donaldson says, compared with the staff of the criminal division. It has no lawyers among its 23 staff, compared with 89 staff in the criminal division, of whom 23 are lawyers.

Zoos given a £10m boost



Mr Andy Grant (left), managing director of Zoo Operations, which has been set up by the London Zoological Society, with Lord Peyton, chairman of the new company, holding Neusi, a chimpanzee aged four, in front of the Mappin Terrace at London Zoo yesterday, after it was announced that the Government has released £10million towards developing London and Whipsnade zoos. The zoos have to contribute another £6 million towards the programme which aims to take the zoos into the 21st century (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Campaign to seek new tax on cigarettes

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

The British Medical Association joined Ash (Action on Smoking and Health) yesterday to campaign for tougher laws on cigarette advertising and tobacco industry sponsorship of sport and the arts.

The organizations want the Government to introduce a cigarette tax with some of the proceeds going towards promoting health education and replacing existing sponsorships by the industry.

The idea is modelled on state legislation introduced last year in Victoria, Australia.

The British move coincides with the renegotiation of the voluntary agreement between the Department of Health and the industry on cigarette advertising and promotion.

Dr John Dawson, head of the BMA professional and scientific division, said yesterday: "The industry has shown that it will callously and cynically find loopholes in the agreements it makes and it is time that restrictions were imposed on them by the Government."

Mr David Simpson, director of Ash, said: "Another 5p on a packet of cigarettes would bring in a further £150 million or so."

"The Government could use this to fund projects such as the work of the Health Education Authority, which has an annual budget of about £20 million, and to replace the £10 million of tobacco sponsorship for sport."

Hailsham backs call to reform juries

By Richard Ford and David Sapsted

Two of the country's most senior legal figures, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the former Lord Chancellor, and Lord Rawlinson of Ewell, the former Attorney-General, demanded fundamental changes in the jury system in English courts yesterday.

Lord Rawlinson said he supported the call made in *The Times* yesterday by Sir Frederick Lawton, the former Court of Appeal judge, for a wide-ranging review of the

system. Lord Hailsham criticized the system for "commanding more public support than it deserves" and said he did not doubt that, because of their make-up, London juries acquitted more people than they should.

The demands for change came after a series of articles in *The Times* last week highlighting existing deficiencies.

Lord Rawlinson said they showed there was now a need

for a formal inquiry. He was supported by Mr Alex Carlile, Democrat MP for Montgomery and secretary of the all-party barristers' group in the Commons, who favoured a Royal Commission.

Lord Rawlinson said that, having seen the series in *The Times*, he believed there was a case for having a formal inquiry to look at and get more detailed evidence about the working of the jury system. Lord Hailsham said: "I do

believe that we used to get a better class of jury before the abolition of the property-owning qualification. I also think it was a very bad mistake to reduce the age of eligibility to 18."

Lord Hailsham said he would not oppose the proposal of a Royal Commission but he favoured the abolition of juries in civil cases and a rational framework for criminal cases which should be heard by a jury.

University facing big cut in science

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

The University of Wales, a federation of six university colleges, could be left with just one college offering physics and chemistry if restructuring proposals submitted by the University Grants Committee (UGC) go ahead.

A UGC-approved restructuring scheme has led to the scaling down of the chemistry department at the college at Aberystwyth while Bangor cut back on physics. The proposals would cut or amalgamate both departments as well as at Swansea, leaving University College, Cardiff, intact.

"We shall be putting forward the argument that our physics department may be too small by the UGC criteria of having at least 20 staff or 200 full-time students, but we have an unrivalled record in upper atmosphere research and a significant national role in physics", Dr Gareth Owen, Aberystwyth's principal, said.

He said that the decision to close so many departments from Wales reflected a lack of understanding of the federal nature of the university, which has been organized to have a

geographic spread of subjects. Professor Charles Stirling, head of chemistry at Bangor, said the department earned more per head from the Science and Engineering Research Council than Cambridge University's chemistry department.

It produced more students and publications per staff capita than any other department in Britain, he said.

Professor Eric Sunderland, principal of the college, said he would "fight very strongly to retain chemistry which is very much part of our expansion programme".

Professor Brian Clarkson, principal of Swansea and vice-chancellor of the university, said the funding council had used outdated figures. Both departments were above UGC minimum thresholds.

Thirty-four universities or university colleges will be affected by the UGC proposals. Eighteen institutions could lose both physics and chemistry departments, while 28 physics departments and 24 chemistry departments may be closed or amalgamated.

Loans for students and fee means test sought

By Sam Kiley, Higher Education Reporter

The Government should attempt to introduce legislation for the means testing of tuition fees, and introduce student loans, according to a paper thought to have been behind documents leaked to the Labour Party this week.

The aim would be to ease the costs on the public purse.

The paper, by Dr John Kelly, of Regent's Park College, London, is thought to have been the basis of much of the reasoning in the leaked documents. It was presented to Mr Robert Jackson, the minister responsible for higher education, in February.

The paper recommends that maintenance grants be abolished after the first year and replaced with loans. It says: "By that time they (students) would have ample opportunity to form their own view as to the value of their education..." One would argue that it would be a much better use of public funds to concentrate the expenditure on tuition anyway.

Dr Kelly's paper was overtaken to some extent in its influence on the minister's thinking by rival proposals from Dr John Barnes and Dr Nicholas Barr, of the London School of Economics. Those called for the introduction of vouchers and loans. Such measures, it was suggested, could be financed out of additional national income contributions.

The document written by Mr Jackson does not specify how vouchers or loans might be paid for.

St Paul's Choir School admits non-choristers

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

St Paul's Choir School, the last English cathedral school reserved exclusively for choristers, will admit non-singing pupils for the first time next year, it was announced yesterday.

The decision to double the size of the school by taking non-choristers marks the end of an 861-year-old tradition.

The headmaster, the Rev Gilbert Hopley, said that the arrival of 40 day boys next September would enable the school to take on extra teaching staff and broaden the range of subjects it offers.

The school hopes its traditional strengths—each pupil is offered tuition in at least two instruments—will attract parents whose sons have an aptitude for music.

Mr Hopley said the move to admit non-choristers had not been prompted by any decline in the number of applicants. Last year 60 aspirants audi-

tioned for just eight places. And he added that although admitting full-fee paying pupils would make the school "more financially viable" it would still need support from voluntary donors.

One of England's oldest grammar schools is expected to announce today that it will become the first state school to opt out of local authority control.

The result of a ballot of parents at Skegness Grammar School is expected to show strong support for taking the school, founded in 1459 as the Magdalen College School in Wainfleet, near by, out of the control of Lincolnshire County Council.

The endorsement will enable the governors to make an application to the Government for permission to take over the running of the school.

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Most importantly, we're doing our best to help our customers change over. For eight days from Friday 28th October, every Tesco petrol station with unleaded petrol will be selling it at 5p per gallon below their usual price.

You can also pick up a free leaflet there, detailing the benefits of unleaded petrol and a list of cars capable of running on it, while a call to the Tesco-funded hotline on 01-387 4970 between 9am and 5pm will tell you more about a lead-free environment.

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Petrol bombers ambush Likud campaign car

Israeli planes in deadly election-day raid

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israeli planes over Lebanon delivered a deadly and vengeful election-day message to Palestinians early yesterday hitting two refugee camps near Sidon and an armed base just south of Beirut.

The attacks, on known strongholds of the Palestine Liberation Organization, came in retaliation for Sunday evening's petrol bombing of a bus near Jericho in which an Israeli mother and her three young children died.

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister, had earlier blamed the PLO for inspiring the petrol bombing through its calls to resist Israeli occupation.

Even as the planes were returning safely to base, however, an Israeli car, plastered with posters for the right-wing Likud Party, was hit with a petrol bomb as it travelled through Arab east Jerusalem. A woman was seriously burnt and two male passengers were slightly injured.

Like yesterday's air raids in south Lebanon the petrol bomb was a clear sign from the Palestinian side that force will be met with force.

Despite swift and massive reprisals in Jericho against the Palestinian community, where the petrol bombers lived, and despite the near certainty of being caught, the attack on the car went ahead. As happened at Jericho there was a quick round up of suspects and 30 were held for questioning. If the Jericho pattern is followed the homes of those who confess will be destroyed long before they

appear in court. In Jericho traffic is once more moving up and down the Jordan Valley road past the spot where Sunday's attack occurred.

The banana trees and orange groves which may have given hiding to the attackers have been flattened and roadside date palms uprooted.

The homes of two of the three who are said to have confessed to the attack on the bus have been blown up and the other levelled by bulldozers. Troops have also demolished the homes of four other families who were said to have been involved in other petrol-bomb attacks in the same area. They confessed after being questioned about the bus attack.

The three suspects are all members of the same family and five brothers from it, aged between 23 and 14, have been arrested along with two of their cousins. According to Lieutenant-General Dan Shomron, the Chief of Staff, the attackers were "simple, if not primitive people, motivated by a desire to attack".

They had decided to stage the ambush on the bus only on impulse while playing a game of cards earlier on Sunday evening. Since their arrest they have confessed to a number of other attacks which show that they had experience in knowing how to slow a bus down with rocks in the road to make it easier to hit it with petrol bombs.

Army reports show that around 150 such bombs have been thrown in the Jericho area since the start of the



Arabs, waiting to be questioned after a petrol-bomb attack on a Likud Party campaign car in east Jerusalem, are guarded by an Israeli policewoman armed with an Uzi submachine-gun. Three passengers, one a woman, were injured in the attack.

Palestinian uprising nearly 11 months ago.

No fewer than 100 of them have been thrown at the same spot as on Sunday. None of the others had caused injuries. Over the same period 1,275 petrol bombs have been tossed in the occupied territories by the Army and 40 buses have been destroyed by them. On at least 2,000 other occasions buses have been

damaged with stones or heavy objects thrown at them. For some time the Army escorted all buses driving through the Jordan Valley but stopped this practice six weeks ago. The commander of the area, Major-General Amram Mitzna, has now promised to step up security for buses.

Meanwhile, a group of prominent Palestinian moderates living in Jerusalem and

the territories have signed a statement saying that the Jewish victims of Jericho and the Palestinian victims ... reflect the tragic side of the conflict in the area.

A PLO spokesman in Cairo condemned the "killings of Israeli civilians. Whoever the perpetrators, such acts underline the dire need for peace." The statement did not claim responsibility for the attack so

endorsing General Mitzna's claim that the petrol bombers were not members of any Palestinian group but had struck at random without even realizing that it was on the eve of the Israeli election.

Nevertheless, the PLO is seen by both sides of the Government to have inspired the attack and that is why the war planes attacked again yesterday.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Hijack guilty plea by Palestinian

Valletta — Mohammed Ali Rezaq, aged 25, the Palestinian hijacker of an Egyptian Boeing 737 to Malta in 1985 pleaded guilty yesterday to seven charges and faces huge prison sentences (Austin Sammut writes).

Rezaq admitted hijacking the aircraft, keeping 57 passengers in custody against their will, murdering an Israeli and an American citizen, and attempting to murder an Egyptian, two Israelis, an Australian, and another American.

On November 23, 1985, with two or three other persons, he hijacked the Egyptian aircraft to Luqa Airport. After nearly two days the plane was stormed by a special Egyptian commando force, resulting in the deaths (mainly caused by fumes) of the large majority of passengers and all the hijackers except Rezaq. The pilot, Egyptian Captain Hani Galal, also survived.

Judgment is expected tomorrow. Besides two life sentences for murder, Rezaq could face imprisonment for a minimum period of 28 years and a maximum of 90 years.

Italian kidnap ordeal

Alghero, Sardinia (Reuter) — Kidnappers used nail clippers to tear off part of the right ear of Signor Giulio De Angelis, the Italian property tycoon, during 142 days of terror before freeing him for a record ransom. Signor Giuseppe Lavaggi, his lawyer, said yesterday.

Signor De Angelis, father of the late Formula One racing driver, Elmo De Angelis, was snatched from his luxury villa on Sardinia's Costa Smeralda on June 12 by four masked men armed with sawn-off shotguns. He was handed over to family emissaries on a road in the centre of the Mediterranean island on Monday evening after the last instalment of a 3-billion-lire (£1.3 million) ransom was paid. A family priest was held briefly during the transaction.

Punjab blasts kill 17

Delhi — In one of the worst days of violence in recent months, 17 people were killed and more than 60 injured in three bomb explosions on the borders of the troubled state of Punjab yesterday (Our Own Correspondent writes). The bombings, being blamed on Sikh extremists, follow the deaths of 11 people in separate shootings on Monday night.

The upsurge in violence close to the border with Jammu and Kashmir, is being seen as an attempt by the militants to disrupt the Diwali national religious holiday next week when hundreds of families travel to the north.

Plea for Gorbachov

Aachen, West Germany — President von Weizsäcker of West Germany called yesterday for Europe to support the Gorbachov reforms. In a clear reference to Mrs Thatcher, the President rebuffed "warning voices" which accused Bonn of showing "blind optimism" about the Gorbachov leadership (Richard Owen writes).

The President was speaking in Aachen's Town Hall, where he presented Chancellor Kohl of West Germany and President Mitterrand of France with the Charlemagne prize for their contribution to European security and unity.

Kabul's new missiles

Moscow (AP) — The Afghan Army displayed in Kabul yesterday powerful new long-range missiles that will be targeted at rebel rocket posts. Tass reported. The news agency quoted the Afghan general staff as saying the new weapons had "great destructive power", but gave no other description. It said they would be tested last night.

Tass did not say if the missiles had been supplied by the Soviet Union. However, Soviet spokesmen and media have repeatedly said that Moscow would take action if the rebels continued shelling Kabul and other Afghan cities.

Kidnap plot denied

Dubai (Reuter) — Two Irishmen charged with the attempted kidnap of a girl, aged five, from her father in the United Arab Emirates pleaded not guilty, court officials said yesterday. The Khor Fakkan court held the first hearing yesterday. Police arrested Mr Gerard Flynn, aged 25, and Mr Dennis Denehy, aged 28, on September 4 after the two took Nadine, daughter of Dr Sameer Nassir, a Jordanian, from his house. Police said the two planned to take her back to her mother in Dublin. Miss Anne McManus, formerly Dr Nassir's wife, is being tried in her absence for complicity.

Nasser trial begins to the chant of nationalism

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

The ghost of Gamal Abdel Nasser, the late President still revered by millions as the hero of Arab nationalism, returned to haunt the Egyptian Government yesterday. The trial of his son and nephew, and 18 others charged with attacks on Israeli and US diplomats, opened amid the tightest security yet seen in an Egyptian court house.

The proceedings, which have attracted maximum attention in the Arab world, are taking place less than two miles from the magnificent mausoleum where the leader of the 1952 revolution was interred. Often the proceedings are interrupted by chants from the public benches evoking Nasser's name to back the attacks.

The trial, which began sensationally with a walk-out by all the defence lawyers in protest against the blanket security and the alleged

early admission of an Israeli legal observer (described by one advocate as an "Israeli dog") is the most sensitive in recent Egyptian history.

It has placed in the dock the country's nine-year-old peace treaty with Israel, to which all the defendants are opposed and which has come under growing strain in recent months as a result of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

Nasser's eldest son, Khaled, aged 38, and his nephew, a doctor, were both absent abroad when the court opened. The other defendants — including former members of the security forces — took their places in metal cages which line the court. It was guarded by armoured personnel carriers mounted with light machine guns and hundreds of steel-helmeted soldiers carrying fixed bayonets.

As the defendants arrived, relatives gathered in the car park of the exhibition ground where the security court was set up and began screaming support and shouting slogans

like "Allah Akbar" (God Is Great) and "Long Live Egypt's Revolution", the name of the group which began its way of terrorism in 1984.

In the absence of Khaled Nasser, who is in Yugoslavia, the best-known defendant was Mahmoud Nouruddin Soliman, who had a red rose in his buttonhole. "The Allah of the revolution" (as he told us) had served for many years as a senior intelligence operative at Egypt's Embassy in London.

As court officials sought a deal with more than a dozen defence lawyers, Mr Soliman, watched by two wives and three daughters seated separately in the public benches, gave an impromptu press conference from the cage in which he was held with four others.

He lambasted the Camp David peace accord and dismissed the threat of the death penalty hanging over his head. Egyptians in the gallery frequently applauded. Was it true that he had served as

an intelligence officer in London where he nominally held a junior embassy post until 1979? "Yes. I had the honour to be working there. I was only working against Zionism and not against the British."

The principal defendant, who at one stage was shown the birth certificate of a new-born Egyptian recently named after him, was cheered as he led the chanting against the three judges who solemnly entered the court, of the clandestine group's favourite slogan: "No Israelis in Egypt."

The good-humoured atmosphere of the press conference altered when Mr Soliman, who repeatedly claimed that the group had only killed or wounded men known to be agents of the Israeli or US intelligence services, turned on an Egyptian-born reporter from a French news agency who had asked a question. "You look Jewish, by the way," he said.

The defendants face a variety of

charges including the killing of two Israeli Embassy personnel, the wounding of six others, and the wounding of two Americans. They are also accused of attempting to undermine Egypt's security and its links with Israel and the US.

Eleven of the accused, including Nasser's engineer son, face the death penalty for complicity in the wounding of an Israeli official, Mr Zbi Kadar, in 1984, the killing of two Israeli officials in Cairo in 1985 and 1986 and attacking two Americans here last year. Nine others, including Nasser's nephew, Mr Gamal Shawki Abdel Nasser, face jail terms on lesser charges.

Because of the lawyers' walk-out, little judicial business was achieved beyond a reading out of the names of the defendants. The presiding judge, Emad el-Din Ismail, looked bemused by the pandemonium and adjourned proceedings for 24 hours, promising the defence better access to their voluble clients.

Gulf War peace talks

Pérez de Cuéllar seeks exchange of prisoners between Iran and Iraq

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary-General, attempted to achieve progress in the Iran-Iraq peace negotiations in Geneva yesterday by trying to persuade both sides to agree to a prisoner exchange.

Achieving a start to the exchange of POWs — about 60,000 Iraqis and up to 40,000 Iranians — emerged as a priority for the UN as the third round of negotiations opened yesterday at the Palais des Nations.

Progress in the two previous rounds was blocked by Iraq's claim to sovereignty over the Shatt al-Arab, connecting the port of Basra with the sea at the head of the Gulf.

The Iraqis want the clearing of the waterway, long obstructed by sunken ships and silt, to be done in full recognition that the frontier is along its median line. The 1975 Algiers Treaty, which sets this out, was torn up by President Hussein of Iraq at the start of the Gulf War.

Señor Pérez de Cuéllar has suggested that the question of

sovereignty be temporarily set aside so that the repatriation of POWs can proceed. A tentative start has been made over the past few days with the return to their respective countries of seriously wounded and sick prisoners.

The UN hopes that once the prisoner exchange is agreed, the negotiators can move on to troop withdrawal to the internationally recognized frontiers except, for the moment, that along the Shatt.

Any move back from forward positions, strengthened in several areas since August 20 in violation of the ceasefire, would ease a situation described by the 350-strong UN military observer corps as continuing to be "inherently unstable".

Typical of the intractability of both sides is Iraq's refusal to permit direct flights between Tehran and Baghdad, across the ceasefire lines, for the UN aircraft carrying Major-General Slavko Jovic, the Yugoslavian chief UN observer, and his senior staff. The UN group is required to

spend alternate weeks in the respective capitals, and its plane is now forced to take a circuitous route over neighbouring countries.

Before resuming the negotiations, Señor Pérez de Cuéllar conferred separately with Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian Foreign Minister, and Mr Tariq Aziz, his Iraqi counterpart.

He said afterwards: "Both are prepared to work seriously. I understand that they really want to go ahead."



Señor Pérez de Cuéllar: Bid to move stalled talks.

Anyway, that is — it has to be — my assumption."

● KUWAIT: Eight Gulf states, overcoming political differences between Iran and Iraq, yesterday approved a Kuwaiti plan to clear the Gulf of mines, wrecks and pollution left by their eight-year-old war (Reuter reports).

Mr Abdul-Rahman al-Awad, the Kuwait Planning Minister, said they had agreed that the executive council of the Regional Organization for Protection of the Marine Environment should carry out the plan.

"We have agreed to entrust the executive council to implement what Kuwait has proposed concerning clearing he told reporters after emergency talks by the organization's ministers which began on Monday.

Kuwait proposed a joint survey of territorial and international waters to determine the extent of hazards to shipping and the marine environment caused by the war and suggested that a committee should report back.

Amnesty accuses Ankara on torture

By Nicholas Beeston

Turkish police and security forces frequently torture political and criminal suspects and five prisoners, including a boy aged 13, have died from their injuries in custody this year, Amnesty International says in a report released today.

The highly critical report is expected to come as a blow for the Government in Ankara which has been eager to promote its commitment to democratic principles, the main condition for its becoming a member of the EEC.

According to Amnesty, people have been arrested and imprisoned for "writing letters, listening to music, signing petitions, singing songs and making speeches".

Journalists, trade unionists, suspected left-wing and Kurdish sympathizers and Islamic

fundamentalists have been targets for arrest and several thousand political prisoners remain in custody, most after unfair trials. In the first six months of this year the Istanbul State Security Court confiscated more than 40 publications and put their staff on trial. In the first half of 1987 the same court heard 44 trials involving 128 defendants prosecuted for religious activities.

Although the London-based human rights organization concedes that Turkey's notorious record has improved since an elected civilian government came to power five years ago, it accuses Ankara of being reluctant to make the necessary legal reforms to ensure respect for human rights. Earlier this year Turkey

signed and ratified the United Nations Convention against Torture and the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture, but there is still widespread beating, electric shock torture, and sexual abuse of prisoners.

In January, Emin Ozkaya, aged 13, died in custody at the Finike Gendarmerie station in south-west Turkey after he was arrested for stealing. The boy, a diabetic, had not been given medicine for three days and an autopsy report said that his back, knees, hands and feet were bruised.

One particularly brutal attack occurred in April this year, when Saadet Akkaya, aged 16, was arrested. She says she was tied to a cross and suspended by her arms, stripped and raped by a

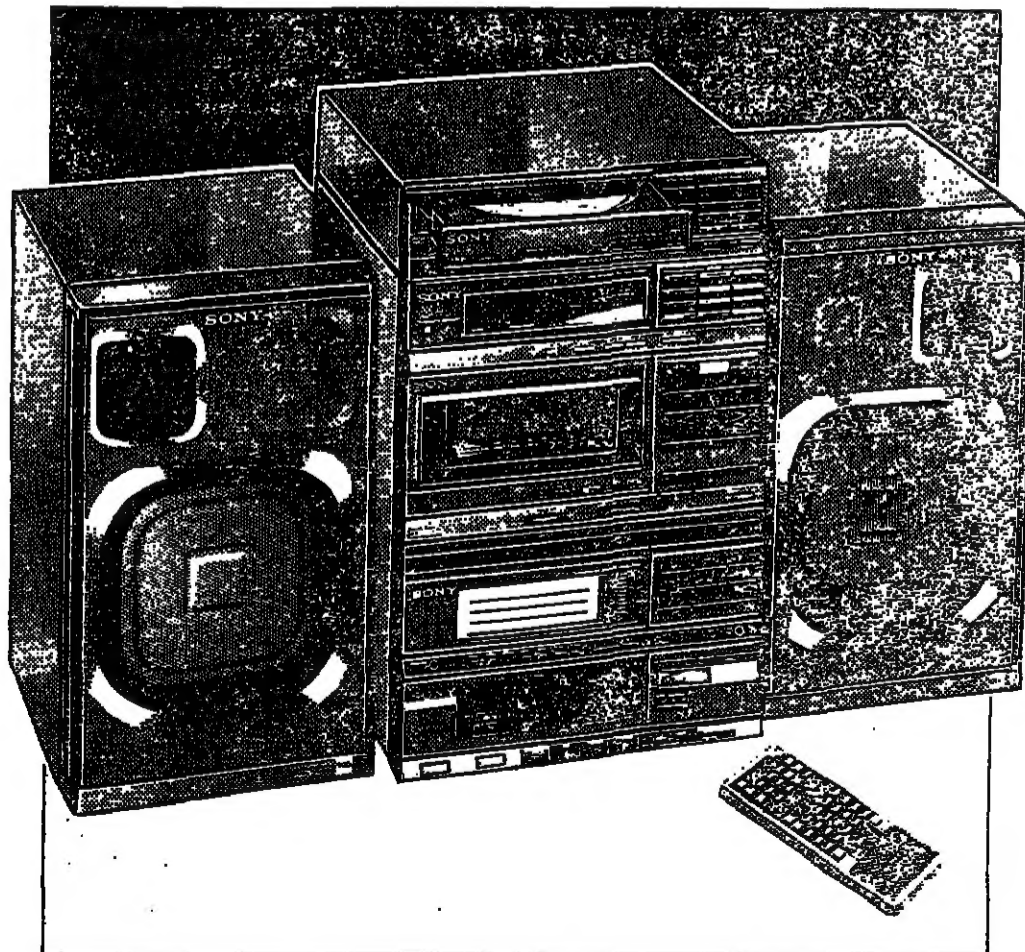
policeman on the orders of a senior officer and given electric shocks on sensitive parts of her body.

A spokesman for the Turkish Embassy in London said the problem of torture had not been eradicated in Turkey but that the Government was making a sincere effort to end it and adhere to the European conventions on human rights.

He added that the Turkish Penal Code was under review by Parliament, and pointed out that there had been no executions of prisoners on death row for four years.

He said that Amnesty had failed to recognize that Turkey was making "sincere efforts" to improve its record.

Turkey Briefing: Amnesty International, 5 Roberts Place, London EC1 (£1.50).



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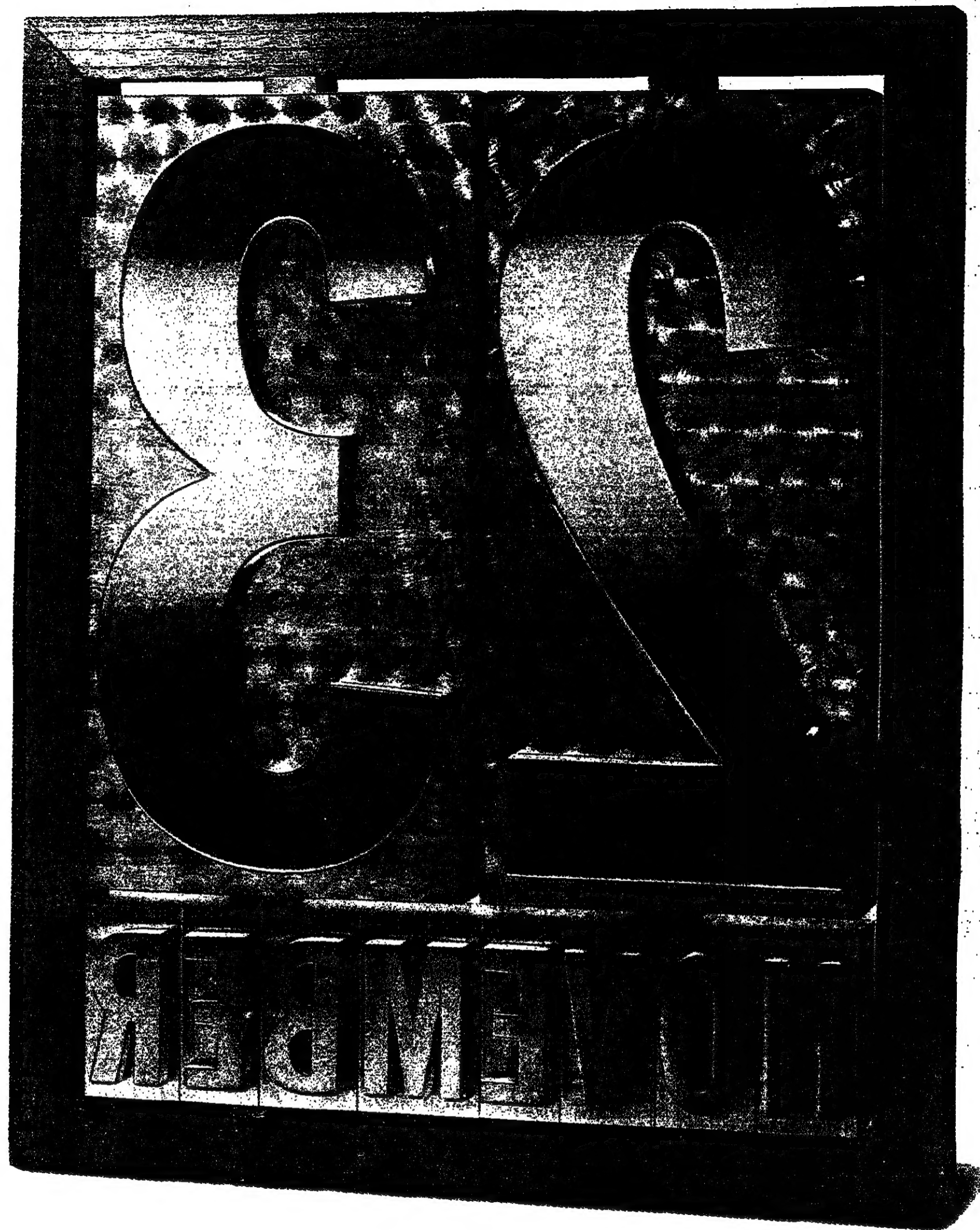
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Calm and

Dukakis fresh ener

The Democrat on the

Calm and confident Bush hits back over tactics

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Vice-President George Bush, pronounced remarkably fit by his White House doctor, was yesterday campaigning vigorously in the Midwest, and told reporters that he had no regrets about the hard-hitting negative campaign he has run against his Democratic rival, Governor Michael Dukakis.

Mr Bush said on NBC television and in an interview with *The Washington Post* that he had no regrets about the tone of his campaign. He also rejected suggestions that Americans were disgusted with his focus on such themes as prison furloughs and the Pledge of Allegiance.

"You're looking at a guy that was getting pounded out there, and suddenly things have gone better for me," he said. He displayed Democratic posters during his brief television interview that he claimed were unfair smears and jibes at him.

Yesterday, he returned to the crucial swing states of Michigan and Illinois, where both candidates are competing fiercely for support. He will fly back to California later this week.

Though looking tired, Mr Bush displays calm confidence on the trail. He told *The New York Times* that he had changed psychologically over the years and was now better able to handle stress.

He was no longer a chronic worrier as he was in 1960, when he suffered from ulcers and was forced to cut short a business trip to London after he had an attack at his hotel which was diagnosed as "mild food poisoning".

He no longer let troubles "eat me up" and "drive me up a wall". He had disciplined himself "not to worry about things you cannot do something about", he said, adding: "I can't say I don't ever get tense" but he could now "take the pounding and not react" the way he once did.

He said the loss from leukaemia of his daughter, Robin, aged three, when he was a young parent was the most stressful event in his life.

Mr Bush's remarks coincided with the front-page publication by the newspaper yesterday of details of his medical examination at Bethesda Naval Hospital in May.

Disclosure of the detailed private medical records of presidential candidates has become common in the US, as public disquiet about past concealments has created pressure for exhaustive reporting of their health.

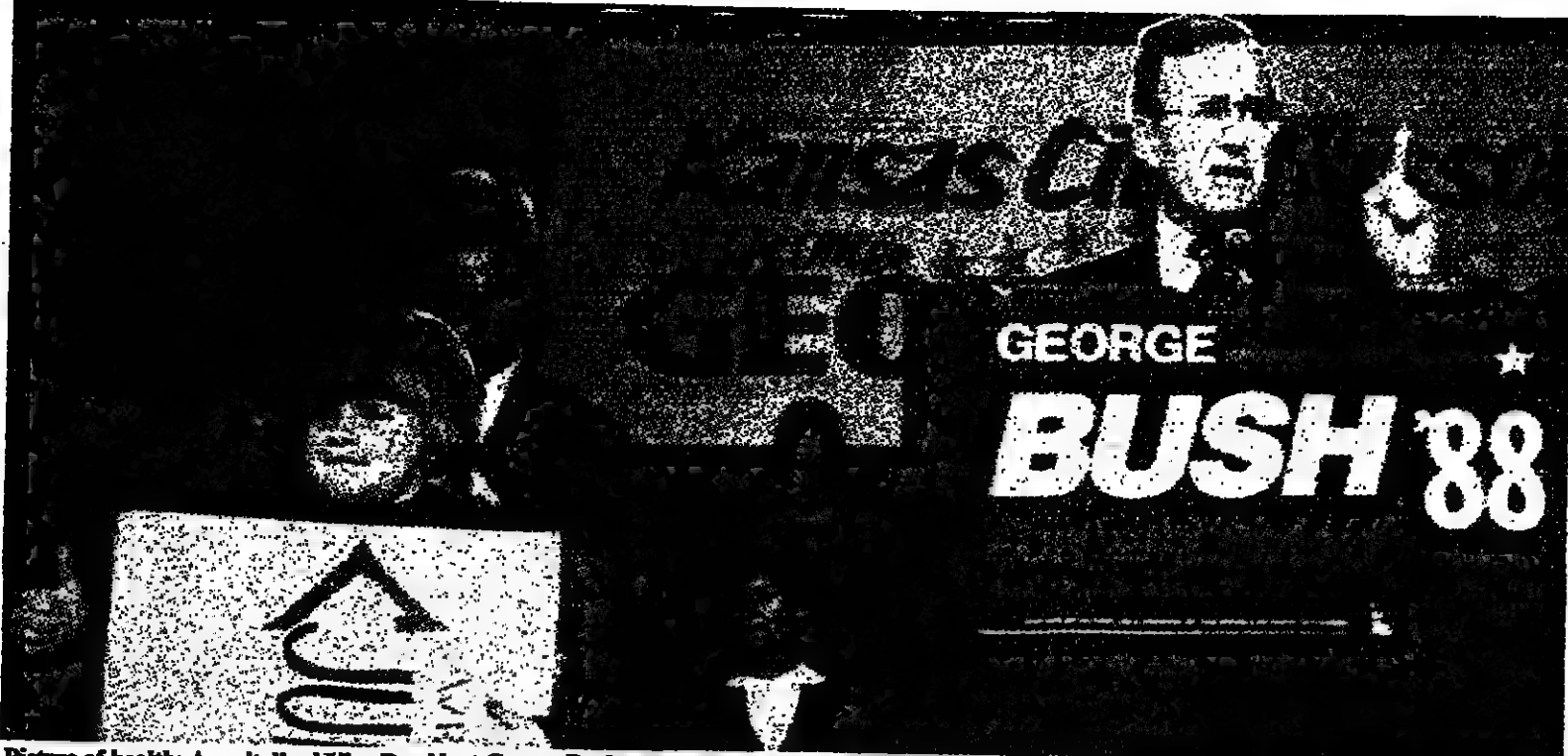
The summary of Mr Bush's medical problems included:

- Duodenal ulcers in 1960 and 1966. No recurrence.
- Basal-cell skin cancer removed from face in 1986.
- Mild enlargement of prostate gland. Surgery not indicated.
- Allergic to bee stings. Receives injections regularly, and
- Mild osteo-arthritis of hips and knees.

Mr Bush exercises regularly outdoors, running and playing tennis, and uses indoor equipment in inclement weather. His laboratory tests were all normal, his resting blood pressure was 108/84, heart function "excellent" and cholesterol level "desirable".

Mr Bush revealed that he would donate his organs to be used after his death, but he had not discussed with his family how he wished to be treated if he became terminally or insupportably ill.

Asked what plans he had made, or would make, with his running mate, Senator Dan Quayle, if he became



Picture of health: A revitalized Vice-President George Bush, pronounced remarkably fit by his doctor, campaigning for votes in Kansas City yesterday.

disabled or seriously ill, Mr Bush said: "None. I have not done it. It never occurred to me to do that."

He said his allergy to bee stings was quite serious and potentially life-threatening. After his last attack in 1978 he had had difficulty breathing.

He does not donate blood because of childhood hepatitis, and feels faint at the sight of hypodermic syringes, saying he once passed out in the Navy when he saw "the great big needle" used on others. Several years ago he suffered diarrhoea from an attack of irritable bowel syndrome, and in 1986 had a small, non-cancerous colon polyp removed.

He has never received psychological counselling, nor undergone blood tests for Aids, although he said he did not see "any problem" with doing so.

While campaigning, he has several times had trouble sleeping, but is reluctant to depend on sleeping pills. He usually has a light breakfast, and eats and drinks only in moderation.

He said he would not necessarily "rush out and have a press conference" if he had a health problem as President, and disclosures would in part depend on what was happening in the world.

The New York Times said it would also publish a health profile of Mr Dukakis.

500 Bosnia officials facing sack

Belgrade (Reuters) — At least 500 officials in Yugoslavia's central republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina will be sacked soon, the Belgrade newspaper *Politika* has reported.

The republic was shaken last year by Yugoslavia's biggest financial scandal involving the issue of up to \$1 billion (£568,000) of false promissory notes by the Bosnian firm, Agrokormer.

Jail vendetta

Rio de Janeiro (Reuters) — Nine convicts have been killed by the Red Falange group which is trying to force authorities to move their drug-smuggling leaders out of a maximum security prison.

High note

Peking (Reuters) — A Chinese man has been arrested cashing a British banknote with a face value of £250,000, the *Shanghai Daily* reported.

Asylum hope

Ankara (Reuters) — Doyuna Priskarnia, the trainer of the Romanian women's fencing team, has asked for asylum here, the Turkish Foreign Ministry said.

Curfew lifted

Bujumbura (AFP) — A curfew imposed in Burundi after tribal massacres in the north last August has been lifted, the Interior Ministry has announced.

Dukakis finds fresh energy

From Charles Bremner, Youngstown, Ohio

Governor Michael Dukakis, zigzagging across the industrial Midwest yesterday, unleashing his long suppressed grin and, urging working-class voters to put a friend in the White House and keep out the "country club Republicans", adapted an old line from Lord Wilson of Rivaux.

"In politics, seven days can be an eternity," the shirt-sleeved governor told a packed meeting in the steel centre of Youngstown, the heart of Ohio's run-down rust belt. "George Bush is spending too long in the club house looking at the statistics."

The national polls have yet to reflect the big swing Mr Dukakis has been claiming recently, but if the race was measured by energy, the Democratic candidate would be ahead. Long-time staff are still marvelling at his eleventh hour discovery of the scriptless, populist style that had eluded him for so long.

"I hope you can see the real Mike Dukakis and not the Mike Dukakis who has been appearing in Bush's ads," he told a teacher in Youngstown, after flying much of the night from southern California.

"I know what you're going through. I'm going to do everything I can to help us rebuild our basic industries," said the governor, who has dropped his old "ideology-free" style and has sounded this week more and more like an old-fashioned, "us-against-them" labour politician.

"We've got an epidemic on Wall Street. Hundreds of millions of dollars are being made by sharp operators," he said. "I'm not interested in sharp operators. I'm interested in the operators and machine operators."

After one citizen mistakenly referred to "President Bush", Mr Dukakis brought down the house by mimicking her. "President Bush, that sounds bad. Vice-President Quayle, that sounds even worse, doesn't it?"

But Mr Dukakis yesterday exuded none of his recent enthusiasm for describing himself as "a liberal in the tradition of Harry Truman and FDR", perhaps because purists like *The New York Times* said that the governor's historical heroes avoided the "L-word".

Winning the industrial vote in the big states of Ohio, Michigan, Illinois and Pennsylvania is the core of the Democrats' pared down strategy for upsetting Mr Bush — a prospect regarded as far-fetched given his lock on the heavy majority of states.

The issues: Unemployment Democrats focus on the human cost

From Michael Binyon, Clarksburg, West Virginia

There are few people in this close-knit community who would not welcome a curb on cheap foreign imports and tough restrictions on hostile takeovers. Clarksburg, an old valley town among the West Virginia mountains, has suffered enough from both.

A year ago its largest industry, a profitable glass factory, was suddenly closed soon after the owners surrendered to a hostile takeover. Almost 1,000 workers were thrown out of work. They lost their wages, their health insurance and their self-respect.

The town of 22,000 people was devastated, as unemployment shot up to 18 per cent and almost \$200 million (about £120 million) was taken out of local spending. It seemed the worst in a series of blows to the mines, the railways, the glass works and the old industries that are deserting West Virginia.

Today Clarksburg has recovered a little. Unemployment has fallen 6 per cent. Local businessmen have fought to bring in new work and shake off this picturesque but poor state's image of decline. New hi-tech industries are springing up and transforming the weed-covered sites of former factories.

Short Brothers of Belfast is to join Pratt and Whitney in using the modern airport as a base for a regional aeronautics centre. The clean air, scenery and crime-free intimacy of the hard-working communities are vigorously marketed to tourists and industry alike.

But jobs are still paramount. In few places does the Dukakis slogan "good jobs at good wages" have such a significant and poignant ring as in Clarksburg. West Virginia is one of the Democrats' few strongholds south of New England. Job losses, foreign competition and the greed of corporate raiders are real issues to the people.

The skilled workers at the Anchor Hocking glass factory did not give in without a struggle. There was not the union militancy that in earlier days branded the impoverished mining towns in the south of the state. There were no strikes in August last year when the bolt came from the blue; the workers went on with their jobs until the factory closed in November.

But Clarksburg became a cause célèbre, a symbol of how takeovers and asset-stripping can kill a plant, even one functioning at a profit that has just undergone a \$10 million expansion with money borrowed from the state treasury.

Local politicians were dismayed. The governor of West Virginia — a popular Republican serving his third term — even offered to buy the plant for the state until another owner could be found.

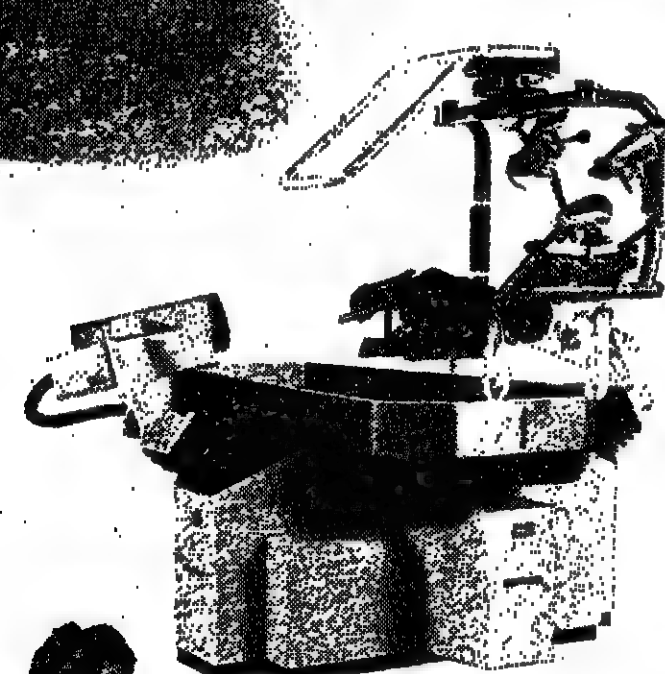
But all efforts failed. The parent company seemed determined to rid itself of the operation.

The new owners said cheap imports from the Far East were flooding the market, and they had to consolidate glass-making in Ohio.

Some workers got jobs elsewhere and moved. Some enrolled in retraining programmes offered by the state. But most are still without work, a year later.



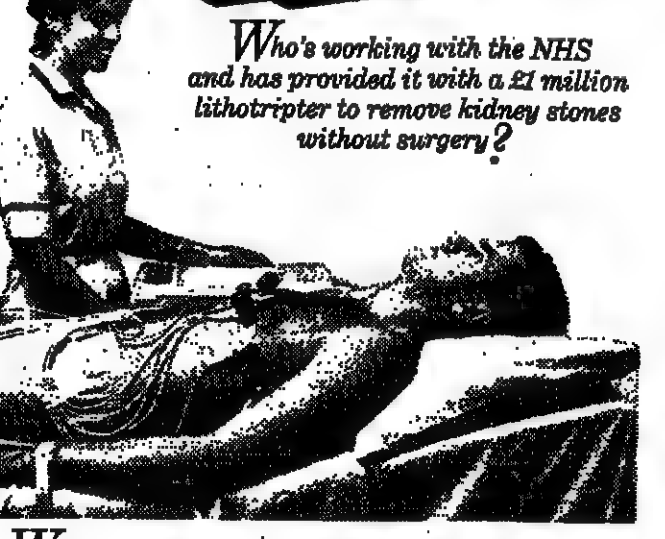
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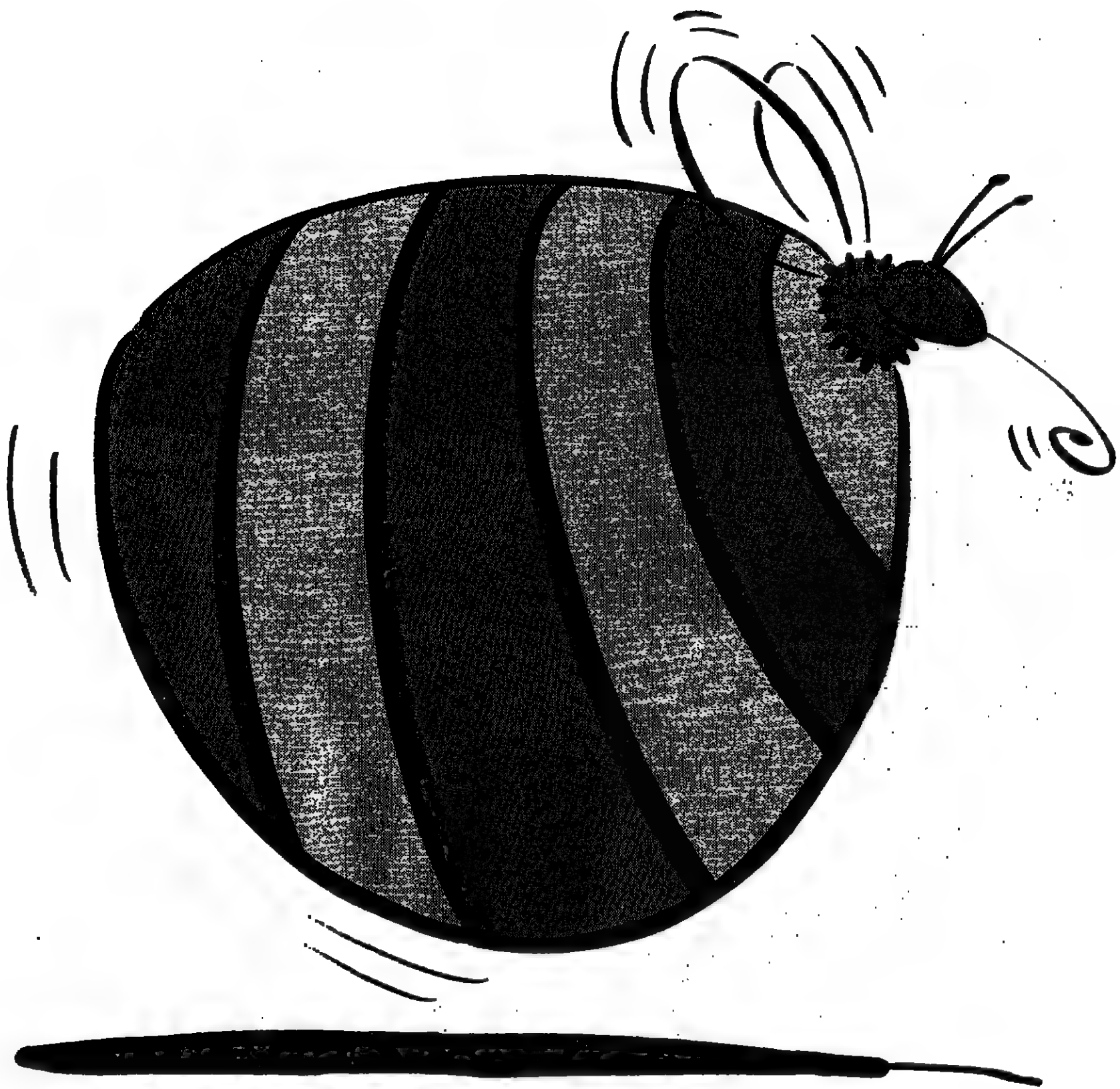
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Newspaper vows to fight on as Pretoria orders month's ban

South Africa's most outspoken and widely respected anti-apartheid newspaper, *The Weekly Mail*, was closed for four weeks yesterday by Mr Stoffel Botha, the Minister of Internal Affairs.

Yesterday's closure marks the third time Mr Botha has used the emergency powers promulgated in August of last year. These enable him, after he has issued a series of warnings, to "suspend" for up to three months any publication which he deems to be "subversive".

"We have not yet assessed what we are going to do, but one thing is absolutely certain: the institution, the journalists, the skills and the determination are not going to disappear," Mr Anton Harber, one of the paper's co-editors, said. He added: "We will keep fighting."

Mr Botha accused *The Weekly Mail* of "systematic and repetitive publishing of matter which in my opinion has, or is calculated to have, the effect of causing a threat to the safety of the public or to the maintenance of public order, or is causing a delay in the termination of the state of emergency."

As well as fighting its battle for survival with the Government, *The Weekly Mail* has found itself under bitter attack from the Muslim community here because of its decision to invite Salmaan Rushdie to South Africa to speak at an anti-censorship seminar.

Fundamentalist Muslims have threatened demonstrations, and even violence against the internationally known novelist if his visit goes ahead. They claim his latest novel, *The Satanic Verses*, is "blasphemous" and shows disrespect to the Prophet Muhammad.

On Monday their views received semi-official support from the Directorate of Publications, which banned the book as undesirable on the grounds that it was "offensive to the religious convictions or feelings of South Africa's inhabitants".

Members of the staff of *The Weekly Mail* said yesterday that, despite the furore, Salmaan Rushdie still was expected to arrive here later this week. He is scheduled to address the seminar in Cape Town on Friday.

The Weekly Mail was started mainly by writers who had previously worked for the *Rand Daily Mail*, South Africa's most famous crusading newspaper.

Johannesburg (AP) — The Department of Prisons made an unusual announcement yesterday, saying Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned African National Congress leader, is not dead. The department's public relations office in Pretoria said there had been rumours that he had died.

Mandela was transferred from Pollsmoor Prison, near Cape Town, to Tygerberg hospital in August, where he was treated for tuberculosis. He was then moved to the private Constantiaberg clinic where he remains in custody.

anti-apartheid daily newspaper, which was closed by its owners in April, 1985, after years of financial losses.

Starting out as little more than a news-sheet financed by the severance payments of former *Rand Daily Mail* workers, *The Weekly Mail* has grown to a 30-page publication selling on average about 21,000 copies a week, which is a quite respectable circulation by South African standards.

The newspaper's editors are white, but it has a dedicated, multi-racial staff of about 20 and belongs to the broadly liberal tradition of English-language journalism here.

The newspaper is valued for its sharp analysis of apartheid and its comprehensive reporting of events in the black townships, an area of South African life which has become less and less well covered by the mainstream newspapers under government censorship.

In its most recent issue, the newspaper's combative reporting style was reflected in a front-page story on the municipal elections, which appeared under the headline: "The gampoint mandate".

The story claimed that only one black in 10 had gone to the polls in spite of an enormous government security operation aimed at producing a high turn-out.

It was articles in earlier issues of the paper about the African National Congress and the United Democratic Front, however, that appear to have drawn Mr Botha's particular ire. Their publication was held to have promoted the "public image or esteem" of outlawed or restricted organizations.

Other articles about atrocities allegedly committed by units of the South African Defence Force in Namibia and Angola were deemed to have "fomented feelings of hatred or hostility in members of the public" towards the Defence Force.

Mr Botha began issuing warnings to *The Weekly Mail* some time ago. He had already once previously threatened to ban it, but he relented at the last moment.

Even now he has not exacted the full three-month penalty which is provided for in the emergency regulations.

Two other radical newspapers, *South*, which circulates mainly among Coloured (mixed-race) people in the Cape Town area, and the Johannesburg-based *New Nation*, financed by the Roman Catholic Church and edited and written by blacks, were closed for varying periods earlier this year.

Charisma and the promise of change

Bhutto's train brings out the crowds

From Anatol Lieven, Lahore

The crowd at the railway station in the country town south of here was not precisely hostile to us, but it had been waiting for Miss Benazir Bhutto for several hours. It was hungry, on edge with expectation, jubilation and throbming music, partly high on hashish, and not far off hysteria.

It was also entirely male, and had evidently never seen a female Western journalist (who was accompanying me) in trousers before.

As we walked up the steps into the ticket-hall, it closed around us with a dangerous surge, knocking weaker elements off their feet and crushing others against the walls.

We were extricated by the Pakistan People's Party district president and his headman. They formed a ring and forced a way out, and the president stood in the middle doing his best to exert his authority over the crowd.

The president — who is also a People's Party candidate for the National Assembly — is a great gentleman from a local land-owning family of Rajput origin. He is descended from princes, and his treatment of the two troublesome, uninvited, guests was princely.

He pulled us from the mob, invited us to his home, fed us and eventually got us on to Miss Bhutto's train, though only by detailing a considerable number of his personal followers and party workers to throw dancing, clenching youths out of our path.

After this experience, it would be difficult to avoid a note of caution when speaking of the enthusiasm with which Miss Bhutto has been received in northern Pakistan during this campaign.

There is no doubt that Miss Bhutto and her mother, Begum Nusrat, do exert a powerful hold on the masses. The Begum explains this phenomenon by saying that, for the people, she is a sort of symbolic mother figure, and Benazir a universal sister, seeking justice for the death of their husband and father.

This overcomes the incongruity of their leadership in a country where they are often the only women to be seen at their rallies, along with the painted figures on the garishly coloured film posters.

Their father stays in the memories of the masses as a man who gave them pride and confidence, though even supporters often realize that many promises were empty.

The appeal of his widow and daughter to the electorate is charismatic, and their leadership of the People's Party autocratic. None of the leaders on the Government side in these polls can match this prestige, even if they could agree which of them is the Islamic Democratic Alliance's candidate to be the next Prime Minister.

It is also true, however, that some at least of the hysterical enthusiasm for the Bhutto clan displayed during the past few days could equally well be directed at a visiting circus and its elephants — or two Western journalists.

Life for many unemployed and under-employed younger Pakistanis, especially outside the main cities, is not exactly full of novelty and excitement.

"Where else in Pakistan could I go to dance about in public," a Muslim League worker asked scornfully about the welcome for Miss Bhutto. And, indeed, youths waiting for the leader were often dancing with disco-like abandon. Youth, in particular, also feels acutely the various frustrations imposed by Pakistan's culture and present economic development.



Miss Benazir Bhutto speaking to election crowds around her train at a station in the Punjab yesterday.

spending cuts and tax increases. State finances are largely dependent on American aid, and America has made it clear that this aid would be in danger if the future Pakistani Government adopted an economic policy of which the US disapproved.

The People's Party's economic programme promises much, but often vaguely. In their speeches, the Bhutto clan is mainly content with praising the virtues of the people and leading them in chants and rhyming couplets on this and similar subjects.

If the Bhutto clan does come to power, there are, therefore, likely to be a good many disappointed people, and especially young Pakistanis, living under them. The febrile mass enthusiasm of the past days could have turned into equally febrile rejection in a year from now.

KARACHI: Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, the chief of the Islamic Democratic Alliance, narrowly escaped injury while leading a procession on Monday when a truck belonging to his rival People's Party candidate rammed several cars in his home constituency at Moro in Sind region (Zahid Hussain writes).

At least 12 people were injured. Mr Jatoi, a former Chief Minister of Sind who left the People's Party in 1986, accused the opposition party's leaders of making an attempt on his life.

However, the owner of the truck said that the accident was caused by brake failure.

ISLAMABAD: The chief ministers of Punjab and North West Frontier Province, who head controversial caretaker governments, said yesterday they would not accept a Bhutto as leader of a Pakistani Government after the November 16 elections.

General Fazle Haq, the North West Frontier Province Chief Minister, has warned that the proud Pathans of his province would not accept a Westernized young woman as President. He claimed Islam did not permit a woman to be leader.

Mr Nawaz Sharif, the Punjab Chief Minister, said in a town near Lahore that the Bhutto clan were traitors financed by Pakistan's enemies.

"We will prefer to die and will not accept their government," he said.

Most of the parties opposing the electoral alliance of the chief ministers have demanded that President Ishaq Khan should dismiss the caretaker governments for their blatant use of government facilities and machinery to rig the coming elections and intimidate opposition.

Tutu news film is released

Johannesburg (AP) — Security police yesterday returned confiscated news film of Archbishop Desmond Tutu after Worldwide Television News threatened legal action.

The film was shot at the weekend by Visnews and WTN, which is based in London, during the archbishop's visit to the remote fishing town of Port Nolloth, where 500 blacks face eviction for living illegally in the area.

He toured the tent camp where the blacks live, met community leaders, gave interviews and held a church service.

Mr Mike Wills, the WTN bureau chief, said after collecting the tapes from security police headquarters in Pretoria: "We were given no reason why they were taken or any action that might result out of them. As we were preparing to go to court we received notification that the tapes were available for collection in Pretoria."

Censorship under the state of emergency bans or restricts reporting about unrest, security force actions, most peaceful protest and a broad range of statements considered subversive, including criticism of some policies.

Peace move fails in Sri Lanka

From Edward Gorman, Jaffna

There seems no prospect that the latest attempt by the Indian Government to implement last year's Indo-Sri Lankan Peace Accord will bring an end to hostilities in the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka.

As an outcome of the recent merger of the two provinces, elections to a joint provincial council — laid down in the accord as a way of granting limited autonomy to the Tamils — are to go ahead on November 19.

In the face of a boycott by the community's main militant group, the Tamil Tigers, which is fighting for an independent state of Eelam and is opposed to the accord, the Indians are now supporting two of its rival groups, the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front and the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization.

Leaders of these two groups, who say they are satisfied with the self-government proposals for the so-called North-Eastern General Council, enjoy the protection of the peace-keeping force, estimated at 50,000, and have put up candidates for all the seats in the new Assembly.

In the Eastern Province, competing candidates of the minority Muslim Congress and the ruling, predominantly Sinhalese, United National Party, mean there will be at least a semblance of a democratic election on November 19, even without the participation of the Tigers.

Here in the North, however, where the population is almost entirely Tamil, the Tiger boycott has reduced the electoral process to the mere rubber-stamping of all 36 Revolutionary Front or Liberation Organization candidates, who will be automatically elected for want of opposition.

No decision has yet been made on where the 71-member council will sit, but the Eastern coastal city of Batticaloa, regarded as a Revolutionary Front stronghold, is considered the most likely possibility.

It is clear that the Front, in particular, is taking advantage of Indian support and the election process to steal a march on the Tigers. It

Colombo — Nine people, including four soldiers, were killed when guerrillas raided an army camp in north-western Sri Lanka yesterday (Vijitha Yapa writes). They escaped with a huge haul of weapons and ammunition.

is also taking the opportunity to avenge a Tiger attempt in 1986 to wipe it out when scores of its fighters died and hundreds were detained.

For example, the shooting by Indian troops on Monday of the Tiger's political leader in the Eastern Province, known as "Francis", effectively was carried out by

Front guerrillas, who led the soldiers to the Tiger hide-out.

Jaffna residents say the violence in the North is largely down to fighting between the two groups which, many claim, is encouraged by the Indians.

While it is difficult to assess what support the Revolutionary Front and the Liberation Organization command among majority moderate opinion, it seems highly unlikely that the new council will be regarded as legitimate and practicable, facing, as it does, both a boycott and the prospect of continuing violence against it and its supporters by the Tigers.

The Indians, meanwhile, are facing a credibility problem, having never recovered the confidence of the people after their big offensive against the Tigers at this time last year. Their current strategy, seen as further dividing the community, is not improving matters.

Back-room bankers of the new China

From Catherine Sampson, Chengdu

The back room is dingy, lit only by candles, one of which reveals a man in a heavy overcoat sitting at a desk and leaning over an abacus. In fact, there is a power cut, and this is the local money lender's — a pawn shop with a difference.

Charging an annual interest rate of between 60 and 96 per cent, and doing business worth 10,000 yuan (£1,600) daily, it is no wonder that Mr Chen Zhizhang, the manager, smiles as he explains that his enterprise is necessary in the initial stage of socialism.

"State banks won't lend to individuals," he says, "so I am doing a social service." The "initial stage of socialism" is the term popularized by Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Communist Party leader, to describe China's present state, in which various forms of ownership, including private, co-exist.

Mr Chen shakes his head sadly as he says that he does not have quite enough funds to comply when he is offered entire factories as surety for loans.

State banks do not want to lend to collectives any more, he explains, so local collective enterprises with a cash-flow problem come to him. He himself is suffering from the policy of the state banks — if they would lend his collective money, he would be willing to take on larger loans. Private houses — of which there are an increasing number in prosperous and progressive Chengdu — he can cope with, at around 20,000 to 30,000 yuan.

In the front room, which opens on to the street, there is a silver-speckled, dream-machine Yamaha, pawned for 20,000 yuan. The owner, who runs a small collective, needs the cash to conduct a deal, explains Mr Chen. The chances of him reclaiming his pride and joy are dwindling — the loan has already been extended twice.

The state banks have an eye on Mr Chen's blooming business. "They would be happy to give us money if we let them take over the management," says Mr Chen, whose face betrays his lack of affection for these institutions. "That's no good. They don't know how to run this sort of business. They're far too rigid."

Pawn shops were banned as exploitative in 1949, along with gambling and prostitution. Now all three are making a comeback, and not only in this south-western provincial capital, which is one step ahead of most places in implementing reforms.

Over the past few years, Chengdu has become an entrepreneurial centre, where private and collective businesses are driving out the state-owned sector. The first post-liberation pawn shop opened here less than a year ago and since then others have appeared in similarly advanced cities.

Chengdu now has three companies, with six branches. Mr Chen's Huamen Company is already the largest, and it opened only in July.

The collective started with capital of 500,000 yuan, the proceeds from a commercial company run by the same people and under the same name. The majority of the 25 staff have also each invested at least 500 yuan of their own, and receive interest at an annual rate of 24 per cent.

Between 50 and 80 per cent of the market value of any item is offered as a loan for a period of one to three months. Interest is charged at between 4 and 6 per cent per month, and an administration fee of between 1 and 2 per cent a month is added. Mr Chen says that most people reclaim their goods. If they don't, small items are sold at a monthly street sale, while pawned wholesale stock is distributed to retail outlets.

Testing credulity to its limit, Mr Chen, aged 52, who used to be a clerk in the local government finance department, admits to an income of only 300 yuan per month. Although this is roughly twice what a worker in a state-owned factory might earn, in Chengdu even a pedicab driver makes around 1,000 yuan a month, and, what's more, does not consider himself particularly well-off.

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AUTUMN ACCOUNTS

The Government's decisions on public spending will satisfy the City and should go a long way towards satisfying the citizens too. The figures presented yesterday by the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, in his autumn statement underline how much easier it is to manage public finances when the underlying state of the economy is sound than when it is not.

After two years in which the Government has been forced to increase spending in order to accommodate inflation and a variety of political demands, this year it has managed to stick to the previously determined total. This is better than most of the City expected and is a considerable feather in the cap of Mr John Major, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

One of the reasons why this has been possible is that unemployment has been falling a good deal faster than anticipated because of the rapid growth in the economy. The usual massive increase in the social security budget has therefore not been necessary — though higher inflation will take its toll of spending in the year after.

Further room for manoeuvre has been created by the falling burden of debt interest. The national debt has been with us for so long that its cost has tended to be forgotten. Now that the budget surplus is gradually enabling the debt to be repaid, the burden of debt interest is falling. As a result, spending on priority programmes can be increased while public spending as a proportion of national income continues to fall. In the current year Mr Lawson has conservatively forecast a surplus of £10 billion.

Within the confines the Government has set itself ministers have managed to produce several politically attractive increases in certain spending programmes. There will be over £2 billion extra for the health service plus something for roads, housing, and law and order.

To some extent these increases are chimerical in that money which was already set aside in the reserve has been allocated to particular

programmes. But the allocation has been done for the most part with political and economic sensitivity.

So far as the wider economy is concerned, the outlook portrayed by the Chancellor in the Treasury's forecast is for considerably slower growth. The slowdown will be largely at the expense of consumers, coupled with rising inflation, until some time in the middle of next year.

Mr Lawson has often scoffed at economic forecasts — and certainly his own at the time of the Budget has turned out to be wrong in most respects. But official forecasts are a little bit more than another guess at what the future holds. They may also be read as a commitment. It is therefore reassuring to note that the Chancellor expects inflation to have come down again to 5 per cent by the final quarter of next year, even if it is likely to stay high for much of next year.

Mr Lawson clearly expects high interest rates to put shackles on consumer spending and for investment and net exports to take up some of the slack. Given the improvement in the efficiency of the economy, this is plausible — but it is not clear how quickly high interest rates will curb domestic demand. A year ago Mr Lawson forecast growth in 1988 of 2.5 per cent. In the event it is likely to be 4.5 per cent.

The economy is now facing a test both of the efficacy of Government policies in providing a firm counter-inflationary framework and of the real improvements in its underlying efficiency. By sticking to his public spending plans, the Chancellor has provided a firm foundation for fiscal policy which he should build on in the Budget.

Combined with a sound monetary policy, this should bring the economy back on to a sustainable course. The measure of the Government's achievement in improving underlying economic efficiency will be how far productivity increases survive the slower growth rate which he is forecasting.

MISSION TO POLAND

The Prime Minister sets out today on a visit many will say she should not be making. Her trip to Poland was always a questionable proposition, capable of being interpreted as a gesture of succour to the Jaruzelski regime. Now it is doubly so.

Predictions that the visit could be manipulated by the authorities for their own ends have been borne out by Monday's announcement that the Gdansk shipyard — the home of Poland's independent trade union movement Solidarity — is to be closed. Mrs Thatcher had made a meeting with Solidarity's leader, Mr Lech Walesa, in his home city a condition of her visit. It must now take place under a cloud.

Remarks by Mr Mieczyslaw Rakowski, Poland's newly-appointed Prime Minister, to the effect that the planned closure of the yard was an example of how Poland was following Mrs Thatcher's admirable economic example might be regarded as adding insult to injury. In the event, they — and the episode as a whole — provide an opportunity and one the Prime Minister is well placed to exploit.

When visiting a country without an official opposition, the Prime Minister, like Sir Geoffrey Howe, has adopted the praiseworthy custom of arranging meetings also with those who represent non-official opinion. The planned meeting in Gdansk is part of that pattern. Even if the Polish Government cites security as a reason why that meeting should not proceed, the cancellation of so well publicized an engagement will communicate its own message.

The main message, however, needs to be communicated by Mrs Thatcher herself. She should convey to her hosts at every opportunity that the comparison between her remedy for Britain's ills and the Jaruzelski-Rakowski remedy for Poland is built on a false premise, and she should spell out why. If anything, the Polish Government's decision to close the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk only makes her task

easier, for it makes the falseness of the comparison more blatant.

Put simply, the British Prime Minister was able to start curbing the power of trade unions, pruning uneconomic industries and instilling a new sense of purpose into Britain only because she had a democratic mandate to do so. General Jaruzelski and his prime minister have no such mandate. Mrs Thatcher became Prime Minister for the third time after a general election which her party won by a large majority. Poland's ruling party has never submitted itself to such elections, nor has it shown any interest in doing so.

Mrs Thatcher should also make clear that to speak of Britain's trade unions and Poland's independent trade union movement in the same breath, as Mr Rakowski has done, is a travesty. Solidarity and other unofficial groups in Poland are fighting for elementary rights — freedom of expression and free assembly — which have long been an integral part of life in Britain and in many other countries. There is no contradiction between a desire for constitutional limits on trade unions in Britain and a desire to see free trade unions in Poland. Each is an expression of democracy.

These are simple points, but they are points the Polish authorities have either failed to understand or chosen to ignore. They need to be made lest Mr Rakowski and others delude themselves into thinking that what they regard as Thatcherite methods will by themselves solve Poland's problems and encourage Western investment. They will not, unless the regime also has the support of the Polish people.

In days when many Poles will be despondent that the regime has opted for confrontation, Mrs Thatcher can ensure at very least that their continuing desire for democratic rights is communicated to the West. At best, she can represent their aspirations to Poland's self-appointed masters, and be heard.

FERDINAND AND IMELDA

The arraignment of Mrs Imelda Marcos in New York this week on charges of embezzlement, racketeering and fraud serves warning to other heads of state and their families that they cannot fleece their countries, export themselves and the proceeds to the United States, and live happily ever after on the revenues thus acquired. But the decision to bring the case was not simple.

President Reagan explained that he was allowing the law to run its course against his old ally on the ground that it was an exclusively legal matter. Given the individuals involved, however — the former President of the Philippines, his wife and eight of their associates — it is also a matter of foreign policy. It has been handled with kid gloves precisely for that reason.

On the insistence of the State Department, the Marcoses were first offered the opportunity to plead guilty, surrendering the small part of their international assets covered by the indictment, and so escape possible jail sentences. Having turned this offer down, they face charges of having shipped \$103 million into the United States, illegally used to buy US real estate, art and jewellery, and fraudulently conspired to transfer some of these assets under backdated deeds.

Under US law they would not have been brought to trial for amassing wealth — estimated at between \$5 billion and \$10 billion worldwide — while in the Philippines. It is the fact that these activities continued after their arrival in Honolulu as exiles in February 1986 that exposes them to prosecution in the US, and not only for these crimes but also for acts committed in the Philippines. These are deemed to have formed part of a 17-year "pattern of racketeering".

The argument against pressing charges was that the US did the world a service in persuading the Marcoses to go quietly, and that

others will follow their example only if they are sure of immunity from prosecution once in voluntary or near-voluntary exile. The State Department is believed to have had General Pinochet of Chile in mind, among others.

US electoral considerations may have tipped the balance in favour of indicting the Marcoses. The Democrats have attacked the Administration for being soft on corruption. A decision to block the prosecution of such presidential looters as the Marcoses would have made their point for them.

Mr Marcos, at least, may never see jail: he is 71 and ailing, and the trial and appeals could take years. But the precedent is important. It clears the path not only for grand juries currently investigating their assets in four other US states and for a probable trial in Honolulu for the alleged purchase of \$500,000 worth of weapons for shipment to the Philippines, but also for the possible recovery by the heavily-indebted Philippines Government of money now lodged in Swiss banks.

Of 40 or more ousted rulers now alive, a handful live quietly in Latin American suburbs. Most have prudently preferred exile, with or without private fortunes, to the risk of being held accountable by their countrymen. Among the most despicable, President Idi Amin of Uganda lives modestly on the Islamic charity of Saudi Arabia, whose security forces ensure that his telephone line is cut each time he thinks of making a warrior's return.

There is an argument for allowing former dictators to trade asylum and immunity from prosecution for the liberation of their subjects. But the United States, by making it clear that they cannot also expect to flaunt — and augment — their ill-gotten wealth, has performed the secondary service of minimizing their incentives to bank so extravagantly against a rainy day. The exemplary greed of the Marcoses merits an exemplary reward.

The Prince of Wales in a struggle with the architects

From Professor Colin St John Wilson

Sir, I was with a sense of relief that I read Deyan Sudjic's article, "A prince for the past" (October 31). He has clearly opened up the inner workings of the Prince's argument — as indeed happened comically in the television programme itself (report, October 29) when the Prince opened a grand-father clock only to find that it was a booze cupboard fitted with a small battery to operate the clock.

Some time ago, taking the boat trip from Westminster to Greenwich I was startled to hear our guide announce "... over on the left is Somerset House which they say is in the Palladium Style ... a concept that instantly became a harmless family joke.

Today it is a different matter. Neither harmless nor a joke, from Richmond, Canary Wharf and the Isle of Dogs, the Palladium style is spawning along the waterfront like kelp.

The wheel, it would seem, has come full circle and here we are again with the battle of the styles. In the 18th century, it is said, Field Marshal Potemkin organized the construction of painted canvas village streets in order to fool Catherine II into believing that a great building renaissance was under way in Russia. Is all that we have to offer today a Palladium Folly or a Potemkin Village to divert a passing prince?

Yours faithfully,
COLIN ST JOHN WILSON,
University of Cambridge,
Department of Architecture,
1 Scrope Terrace,
Cambridge,
October 31.

From the Secretary of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London
Sir, For a Prince of Wales to engage in public debate is not as new as most commentators suggest. King Edward VII provides a close parallel in having to create a useful role during his long apprenticeship to the Throne.

He developed a strong interest in hospitals and their reform, and in complementary medicine. The King's Fund (founded in 1897 as the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund) is one lasting result, which he launched with an announcement in *The Times* on February 6, 1897.

If that action is seen as uncontroversial today, that is the sort of trick that history plays. At the time his intervention was seen to be risky — risky if it failed and controversial because of the interests that he would offend.

One of the more tiresome current reactions to the Prince's

recent broadcast is the comment that he should keep quiet on matters about which he can speak only as a non-expert. That is precisely his strength. Architecture is much too important to be left to the architects alone, just as medicine is too important to be left to the physicians.

If the architects are not prepared to welcome serious public discussion about contemporary British architecture's strengths and weaknesses, the elitism lies with them, not the Prince.

Yours etc.,
R. MAXWELL, Secretary,
King Edward's Hospital Fund
for London,
14 Palace Court, W2.

From Mr Don Joyce
Sir, What a pleasure it was to watch this evening's television programme, in which the Prince of Wales said, in plain words, so many of the things which needed saying on the desecration of our cities by architects and developers.

If the heir to the Throne continues to say what ought to be said in this forthright fashion, he will greatly strengthen the respect of most of his subjects for the Monarchy.

It is really heresy to believe that it is time that much more real power lay with the Throne, much less with the politicians, and very much less with the unknown but potent faceless ones of Whitehall and town hall? Let us again make use of the abundant talents of the Royal Family.

Yours faithfully,
D. JOYCE,
Flat 2, Market Cross Holiday
Apartments,
Church Street, Cheddar, Somerset,
October 28.

From Mr George Ferguson
Sir, The RIBA president-elect and some other members of London's architectural establishment do a grave disservice to our profession by giving the impression that architects in general are opposed to Prince Charles's views. It is a foolish ploy.

I believe that the vast majority of Britain's architects have the humility and good sense to realise that listening to popular opinion may lead to a better understanding of the essential quality of our towns and villages and that, without stifling genius, not every new building needs to shout its presence.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE FERGUSON,
Ferguson Mann (Architects),
Royal Colonnade,
18 Great George Street,
Bristol, Avon.

and administered by a public office, whereas the public lending

Copyright principle

From Professor W. R. Cornish
Sir, On Wednesday, the House of Lords debates Commons amendments to the Copyright, Designs and Patents Bill. The Bill contains an extension of copyright in sound recordings, films and computer programs to cover commercial rental. This is a significant adaptation of the system to meet technical developments.

The Government is now proposing amendments which will extend this rental right to include lending by public libraries. This raises at a very late stage an important issue of principle. Why should the public lending of books be covered by a special scheme financed by Government subven-

tion, whereas the public lending of records, films and computer programs is to be dealt with under copyright? The issue is unlikely to get the attention it deserves.

The change is being sought not in the provisions of the Bill relating to copyright, but in the obscure schedule VII, where Acts relating to libraries are amended. Whatever else, it cannot be right so to hide away a fundamental statement on the scope of copyright.

Yours sincerely,
W. R. CORNISH,
The London School of Economics
and Political Science,
Law Department,
Houghton Street, WC2,
October 31.

Solicitors' clerks

From the Secretary of the Chancery Bar Association
Sir, The Law Society's response to the Lord Chancellor's proposals (report, October 18) — viz. that the solicitor's representative is necessary to look after the client at court (even apparently in circumstances where the solicitor's clerk may be as much a stranger to the client as is the barrister) — throws the baby out with the bathwater. The proposals need to be seen in a much wider context.

In many cases (not at all limited to criminal appeals) a "second man" (the expression includes "woman") in the legal team is unnecessary. Such cases, on the civil side at least, do not require the presence of the lay client and in practice the client rarely if ever attends. Such cases include appeals of many kinds, especially those simply involving a point of law or practice, and the vast majority of interlocutory applications.

Interlocutory applications most

frequently take place in chambers, where barristers need not be employed. The employment of barristers is limited to cases when the solicitor wants them there; when this happens, more often than not a second man is simply a waste of costs. Surely it is only sensible to decide in those cases whether a barrister or a solicitor's representative is the appropriate person to do the job and then hand him the file.

Cases where there is a substantial trial or the client needs real personal attention by his familiar adviser during the hearing are quite different: in those cases a legal team of two or more, however composed, becomes clearly desirable.

It is high time that both limbs of the profession got to grips with providing a sensible (and not rigid) regime.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER COOKE, Secretary,
Chancery Bar Association,
New Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2,
October 20.

Meeting of minds

From Dr H. C. Swaisland
Sir, Writing a letter to you can have unexpected and pleasant consequences. In your columns of December 15 last I quoted the views in 1872 of James Henry Barber, the Sheffield banker, on the annual loss locally of a fortnight's work over Christmas and the opening of a new year.

On a recent evening members of two generations of his descendants (he had 12 children), previously unacquainted, met to look at the Barber correspondence in the Anti-Slavery Society records in Rhodes House and join me afterwards at dinner in college. They maintain James Henry's Quakerly practice of keeping family records and cricket is still an active family interest (one captained Yorkshire in an earlier generation).

Ours was a very lively table. Thank you, Sir, for unwittingly bringing the occasion about!

Yours faithfully,
H. C. SWAISLAND,
166 Poplar Grove,
Kennington, Oxford.

Seeing red

From Mr Richard Howard-Jones
Sir, Mr Alistair Morton's problem with HM Customs and Excise in making payment for duty (October 28) is easily solved.

It merely involves them accepting a form of payment which is universal, free of currency and guaranteed. I mean, of course, a credit card issued by either a Mastercard/Eurocard or Visa-affiliated bank.

It seems strange that one can quickly and easily purchase an airline ticket, a telephone call or a cup of tea with a credit card at Heathrow, but not, it seems, pay Customs duty.

Why not?
Yours faithfully,
R. HOWARD-JONES,
19 Pains Dene Road,
Salisbury,
Wiltshire,
October 29.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

Cost of freezing child benefit

From the Director of the Child Poverty Action Group

Sir, Your leader (October 28) states that "children in need will be better off as a result of the decisions announced" on October 27 by the social services secretary. This is, of course, true for some "children in need" (and CPAG welcomes any crumb of comfort for poor families) but it is not the case for others.

Those actually on income support or family credit will gain about 50p per week per child. However, for families on family credit and housing benefit — likely to be amongst the lowest-paid — some of the gain is withdrawn through housing benefit reductions. And the freeze in child benefit simultaneously means losses for the very poorest families, who slip through the "safety net"; the "near-poor" just above the qualifying level for means-tested benefits; and many women in families where total family income is not shared fairly.

These losses will all affect "children in need" — and not a handful, but a considerable number. Their loss of child benefit now totals over £1 per week since 1985.

Moreover, the choice of a real reduction in child benefit to finance what increases there have been is problematic, and contradictory to the Government's philosophy. Not only does child benefit "target" successfully all those families whose means-tested benefits fail to reach; it is also the most cost-effective and efficient way of providing a "ladder out of poverty" (in John Moore's own phrase) for those families caught in the poverty trap.

Your preference for a proper review, rather than "piecemeal decisions", is welcome. But it should not be forgotten that the last five years have been spent setting up and implementing what the Government itself described as the most comprehensive review of the benefits system since Beveridge.

That review concluded decisively that "the case for changing (the basis or structure of child benefit) has not been made out. The Government do not therefore propose to alter it". It is difficult to see what could have happened since to change the Government's mind.

Yours faithfully,
FRAN BENNETT, Director,
Child Poverty Action Group,
4th Floor, 1-5 Bath Street, EC1,
October 28.

Its own reward

From Mr Leonard Cox
Sir, I have received the following letter from the Inspector of Taxes: Thank you for your 1988/89 tax return. Could you please confirm aside the weekly rates state pension you and your wife receive per week, and also the amount your wife receives per week in her own virtue.

The answer to the second question is nothing, which shows how unfair life is. Had I been otherwise married I might have been doing fine on her immoral earnings.

Yours faithfully,
LEONARD COX,
7 Needwood Drive,
Bebington,
Wirral,
Merseyside,
October 21.

North of Watford

From Mr Robert Scott
Sir, You may think it profane to protest against surveys, but for the North-west region to be dubbed a "cultural desert totally devoid of opera, ballet, restaurants and good shops" (report, October 26) is a description few of us hedonists living here would recognise.

However, having checked the survey, I took comfort. I learn that it is a result of questioning 110 chief executives and finance directors of companies based in the South-east, South-west, East Anglia and the Greater London area. I should think their views on the arts in the North-west are about as useful as mine are on oxy-acetylene welding.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT SCOTT,
Managing Director,
Manchester Theatres Ltd,
Palace Theatre,
Oxford Street,
Manchester 1.

Granny bond

From Mr Quentin de la Bedoyere
Sir, Mrs Pamela Ide (October 26) tells you of how her young grandson covered her innocent eyes from a sexual episode on television. Alas, not all grandchildren are so protective.

Our three-year-old grandson was knocked over by an obnoxious playground friend. He leapt to his feet and outpaced his opponent with the truly awful threat: "If you do that again, I'll set my granny on you!"

Yours faithfully,
QUENTIN DE LA BEDOYERE,
10 Edge Hill, SW19,
October 26.

Moving house

From Dr M. Cole
Sir, I applaud Dr Lambert's letter on house moves as a cause of stress (October 28). While national firms are one culprit, may I suggest that the NHS is another?

Since qualifying as a doctor just over six years ago my husband has held posts in Sheffield, Nottingham, Derby, Sheffield (again), Salisbury, Southampton, London and Salisbury (again).

Although GPs can lead a sedentary life, those involved in higher specialist training tend to live in a whirl of job applications and expiring contracts until their forties.

The NHS pays the removal expenses of householders in these cases, and would gain financially and in personnel terms if it could devise a way to stop this merry-go-round. Let Dr Lambert add his own "company" to the black list.

Yours faithfully,
M. COLE,
4 The Gazings, Gazing Lane,
West Wellow, Hampshire.

From Lady Le Bailly
Sir I have news for Dr Lambert. Those in the three services have been moved round for years. They learn to accept it — even enjoy it.

When my husband served in the Royal Navy we had 19 homes in 26 years. We have now been married for 42 years, have three normal, well-adjusted children and six grandchildren. There are thousands more like me who faced repeated moves with perhaps a little stress but no mental or physical ill health — and not much divorce either.

Yours faithfully,
PAMELA LE BAILLY,
Garlands House, St Tudy,
Bodmin, Cornwall.

Knees, please

From Dr Peter Lanyon-Orgill
Sir, As an inveterate wearer of shorts (except in pouring rain or when attending church services or symphony concerts), now in his seventh decade, and who has had only one day's illness in the last 50 years, I would like to endorse Mrs Tulloch's sentiments (October 27) and share her condemnation of the modern unhealthy habit of forcing small boys into long trousers, whereas only 20 years ago they did not usually "go into long" until they were 13 or 14.

Unfortunately, even though one's handsomely tanned lower limbs have acquired their natural colour by exposure to the gentle Devonian sunshine or sea air, one is constantly accused of having joined the hordes of unpatriotic lemmings who have deserted their native shores to suffer the unsympathetic attention of Mediterranean climes.

Yours faithfully,
P. A. LANYON-ORGILL,
2 Haddon Lees,
Tor Park Road,
Torquay, Devon,
October 27.

THE ARTS

Butterfly in a corrugated iron cage

ZOE DODD

OPERA

Madama Butterfly
Covent Garden

All too often in the past, productions borrowed from Covent Garden have been mere temporary accommodation for a star, or perhaps a couple of stars. But in the case of *Madama Butterfly*, which arrives courtesy of Scottish Opera, it is the vehicle itself which is the prime attraction. And this is said out of no disrespect to Catherine Malfitano, singing her first London Cio-Cio-San, although she is familiar in the part elsewhere. Her Butterfly gathers ever increasing strength and ends by being a powerful and poignant creation.

John Cox's last commission when he was holding the reins at Scottish Opera was to persuade the Spanish director Nuria Espert into the lyric theatre. Now that he is production director at Covent Garden he must be well pleased with that legacy. And Ms Espert too is presumably happy with her handiwork as more operas are to follow, including a *Rigoletto* for

Covent Garden next month. She has gone on record as saying that she likes to create a "mood" on stage. And that she certainly does in *Madama Butterfly*: it is one of her designer, Ezio Frigerio, who has produced one of the most convincing sets seen at the Garden for many a moon, she places Butterfly in a tenement block. As Hilary Finch described from Glasgow last year, it is a miserable place of corrugated iron and outside staircases. The sole splash of colour comes from a central mass of purple blossoms: a wisteria grows in Nagasaki.

A few years ago at the Coliseum,

Graham Vick had Cio-Cio-San living in similarly dismal quarters and Pinkerton hopping across duckboards through the mud with Sharpless sweating on behind. Espert's view is even sterner; it is strictly feminist and anti-imperialist. None of the males, and especially the American males, has more than half an ounce of goodness in him. And geisha life is sordid.

Cio-Cio-San is constantly spied on from those iron balconies, which might be Catfish Row without the jollity, whether lovingly by Suzuki or with greed by the pimps around her. When dawn rises in the second scene of Act II, it is not a golden affair, but one of scurrying black figures emptying the slops. The bird song demanded by Puccini is distinctly muted — not many feathers in this part of town apart from those in the mattresses hung out to air. And Butterfly herself at the end is

slumped bleeding over a railing like a piece of bedding.

The rigour of Espert's staging, with its emphasis on intense and ugly domesticity, brings some drawbacks especially in the unduly sombre Act I. Malfitano missed a little of Cio-Cio-San's girlish anticipation of her husband to be, although there is one marvellous moment when she almost curls into a foetus in a dark corner of the stage on asking Pinkerton to love her as a child ("un bene di bambino").

All is geared to Act II, played without a break, and it is here that Malfitano, who is quite a heavy-weight soprano nowadays, shows her real power. "Un bel di" was excellently judged and the death scene carried all the emotional charge Nuria Espert draws from her native Spanish actors.

For reasons not quite clear the production is set in the late Thirties. Arthur Davies's Pin-

kerton is more an American vagabond than a cad. Jonathan Summers's Sharpless is sung with equal assurance, a cool consul who does not care for dirtying himself with the matters going on around him. Miao Qing, despite some poor diction, is a watchful Suzuki and there are sharp characterizations in the minor parts, especially John Dobson's suave Goro.

The only disappointing feature is the conducting of Michael Schonwandt. Perhaps the dramatic subtleties of Sinopoli's recent DG recording are ringing too loudly in the ears. But Schonwandt until the final scene sounded too often routine.

Frigerio should get rid of the irritating gauze which puts a block between stage and audience, but otherwise he and Espert have given London a compelling taste of music theatre.

John Higgins



Poignant: Catherine Malfitano with Joanne Shriver as Goro

TELEVISION

Poachers
face a
grilling

Keeping alive an old tradition and adapting that tradition with advanced methods and entrepreneurial flair, the new breed of British poacher might be thought to merit awards from the British Tourist Authority and the CBI. *Brass Tacks* (BBC2) showed both sides of the coin: shy salmon-snafflers with spookily unit faces called "Mike" or "Dave", and frankly outspoken hi-tech water balliffs nostalgic for the old dispensation of modest rogues coming quietly.

Some things will never change, especially aged gents in green duvets dispatching fish with the words "That'll stop you coughing in church". The programme did not have to spell out the fact that the business of poaching provides a neat microcosm of the class system, complete with a sergeant-major buffer-caste of gamekeepers and food inspectors.

One of the latter appeared browning over an untouched plate of venison in a Tamerton hotel while discoursing on the putrefaction to which improperly killed deer flesh is prey. Backstage, a slightly agitated chef repeatedly seemed to take to the kitchen to cook only non-lethal meat. Unwary diners might also, it transpired, find themselves ingesting doses of a fabulously potent tranquilliser. Quite unexpectedly, Max Eastman's engaging report had turned into the biggest thumbs-down venison has ever received on the small screen.

The only poaching going on in the last of the marvellously idiosyncratic *Floyd On Britain And Ireland* (also BBC2) was that of Orcaidan fish in fish stock. In a rare excess of magnanimity towards edible fauna, the gallant gourmet returned to the briny lobster that his team of divers had only just brought up from the seabed. The animal resumed normal service below the waves, no doubt reflecting on its good fortune in having been landed on a boat whose galley did not possess a large enough pot. Quite how the poet George Mackay Brown fitted into the menu was not clear: this is very much part of the Floyd charm.

Martin Cropper

BRILLIANT
BRITISH
FIREWORKS
FROM

BROOKS

IN THE SHOPS NOW!

In grey, but glad of it

ADRIAN BROOKS

Edward Herrmann is
fed up with playing
the Tall American
In Suit. But he has
no complaints about
his latest role, suit
or not, as he tells
Sheridan Morley

A Walk in the Woods, which opens tomorrow at the Comedy after a week of previews and a triumphant Broadway season earlier this year, is Lee Blessing's two-character drama about the career diplomats from Moscow and Washington who meet during a Geneva conference to talk through their personal and political differences. For London, the role of the Russian negotiator is played by Sir Alec Guinness and that of the American by Edward Herrmann, last seen here as T.S. Eliot in *Tom and Viv* at the Royal Court.

Though he has lately been playing in films as straight man to the likes of Goldie Hawn (*Overboard*) and Bette Midler (*Big Business*), Herrmann is probably most familiar from television series such as *Eleanor and Franklin*, in which he played Roosevelt from 20 to 70, and *Concealed Enemies* in which he played Alger Hiss. His start was, however, at a London drama school; in 1967 at the age of 24 he won a Fulbright scholarship to Lamda and studied under Michael MacOwan there. "People were always amazed that I was even taller than Vanessa Redgrave, but they seemed impressed that an actor had managed to win a Fulbright, especially as during the Vietnam war we had been classified alongside philosophers as the profession of least necessity to the national welfare. At first they seemed kind of surprised at Lamda that I could speak English in complete sentences, but I always thought I had some sort of local background



A Joker fighting to get out: "In *A Walk in the Woods* I really wanted to play the Russian because he has more jokes," says Edward Herrmann

because at the Palladium back in the 1850s there was a magician called Herrmann The Great who lasted a thousand performances. "In my time at Lamda every American wanted to be an English actor; Olivier was still rampantly healthy, you could see Ralph Richardson for five shillings, and I got very depressed about having to return to America and to a classical theatre that just didn't seem to exist over there; but then a curious thing happened. About halfway through my year in London I went to the National Film Theatre to see a season of Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn and suddenly realized there was no need to be blinded by

English superiority. Our people could do great work too. After that I also began to notice that the English were capable of giving some quite terrible performances as well as the great ones, and somehow it didn't seem so bad to be an American actor after all." Herrmann then returned to America, married (though he is now separated) and carved out a career of considerable distinction in regional theatres. Four years ago, he was first sent the script of *A Walk in the Woods* with a view to playing it at the Yale Rep in New Haven. "I really wanted to play the Russian because he has more jokes and I was getting fed up with

always being cast as Tall American In Suit. But those plans fell through, and so when it came around again for London because Sam Waterston didn't want to repeat his Broadway role over here, I was more than delighted. How could you not want to work with Alec Guinness? "For the first week of rehearsal I just stared at him, amazed that he'd learnt all the lines. The greats are usually like that; when I did *The Best* with Olivier he used to check his Michigan accent with me and I suddenly realized that that generation is never looking for homage from other actors; what they want is to be challenged by us.

"I think *Walk in the Woods* may be more topical now than when Lee Blessing first wrote it back in 1985: it's pre-plauson but if God forbid, Bush does win the election then we may well go back to a much colder climate. And yet in a curious way it's less a power play than the story of two men going on a pilgrimage through their own lives in the grip of something much bigger than them. "In that sense it isn't a play likely to date very fast, and I think it has something to say about men coming to terms with their own destinies far beyond Geneva itself or any single conference about world peace."

With friends like the cast of an American revue, who needs enemies? Holly Hill reports from New York

Butchered on Broadway

A satirical cabaret revue which has been milking Broadway's sacred cows since 1983, *Forbidden Broadway* 1988 (Theatre East), is a new edition brimming with British clotted cream. The programme sports the note: "Forbidden Broadway wishes to thank Terry Hands and the RSC for permission to use the English language." The show begins with a spoof on technology: "Today it doesn't matter if the plot gets in a rut/You can always spin the set so fast you won't know who did what", then moves into a satire on ticket tots. To the tune of "A Fugue for Timborens" from *Gypsies and Dols*, one tout sings: "I got the Phantom here/The ticket's in the rear/But you can see right through the chandelier."

Forbidden Broadway's Phantom of the Musical sends up Andrew Lloyd Webber as a Phan-

tom whose deformity is a Mickey Mouse face. Sarah Brightman emits several "tweets" through buck teeth and, to the tune of "When I Marry Mister Snow" from *Carousel*, trills: "When I marry Andrew Lloyd/T'll be at the centre of the Phantom craze/And I needn't show up for matinees." Cameron Mackintosh, dressed like Napoleon, has one number about his domination of musical theatre and another, to "My Favourite Things" from *The Sound of Music*, about his marketing of souvenirs, "Sweatshirts and cat's ears and key chains and whisksers".

The highlights in a show full of

fun are a spoof of Stephen Sondheim's lyrics to the tune of his current hit *Into the Woods*: "Into the words that trip your lips and fry your brain and spring your tongue... I sort of hate to ask it/But what's a rhyme for basket?" and a medley of songs from *Les Misérables*, performed as if the players are on a treadmill. Fantine's solo comes out "I dreamed a dream in days gone by/When all the scenery was pretty/I didn't sing one song and die".

The concept, staging, and often inspired parody lyrics are by Gerard Alessandrini, with a cast of four dynamic chameleons and a

pianist who impersonates an orchestra. *Forbidden Broadway*, 1988 has some slack in retreads from previous editions, but it remains the class act in American satirical revues. The autumn theatre season has burst from the starting gate at a heartening pace. *Blues in the Night* (Minetta Lane Theatre) has found a home Off-Broadway; Soho Rep's *The Blitzstein Project* is presenting an accomplished cast of ten in some of Marc Blitzstein's familiar music and the professional stage premieres of short operatic pieces *The Harpies* and *I've Got the Tune*. The music sounds more a curiosity than a revelation, but the

programme has been imaginatively woven together and staged by Carol Cowen. The American Place Theatre's American Humourists Series is off to a gallop with *Cabrin Trillin's Uncle Sam*, featuring the deadpan delivery and wry humour ("I could never convince my maths teacher that my answers were meant ironically") of the New Yorker writer. Craig Lucas's Off-Broadway show *Reckless* (Circle Rep) is a bizarre comedy about a young woman (another gem from the comic actress Robin Bartlett) who is on the run from a husband who has taken out a contract on her life. Her adventures involve ever more weirdly appealing people and situations until, in the last of several inventive plot twists, her 20 year odyssey comes to a grace note.

THEATRE

Revenge
of the
chorus

The Bacchae
Lyric, Hammersmith

A sacred text of the Sixties, Euripides' tragedy has hitherto been staged as a dreadful warning on the dangers of repression; with Dionysus's hideous punishment of the rebellious Pentheus carrying the message that whatever you turn your back on will get you in the end.

In Nancy Meckler's Shared Experience production (first seen at the Edinburgh Festival), attention shifts to the female chorus of the title: subjects first of an earthy tyrant, and then the maddened slaves of a revengeful god — either way getting a raw deal from male authority.

Both autocrats are cut down to size. Simon Tyrrell's Dionysus makes his first appearance as a hollow-voiced boy speaking in wondering doubt of his own divinity, appealing to the spectators to acknowledge the justice of his cause, and carrying out his plan in a spirit of resentful pique against the slur on his Olympian credentials.

Peter Hamilton Dyer partners him as a puny, sneering Pentheus in a pin-stripe suit who comes out of the closet as a graceless drag queen on the fatal excursion to Cithaeron.

If you see them as two sides of the same character, the performance works extremely well: each sado-sadically caressing the other in their moments of power, and playing the deadly double meanings ("You spoil me", "I mean to spoil you") with a gentle under-emphasis that chills the blood.

Under-emphasis stops short with the four-girl chorus, which supports the central action with keening chants and percussive savagery on home made instruments.

Possessed by Dionysus, they become extensions of his body, responding as though they had received the blow when Pentheus knocks him to the floor, spectrally assembling at his call when Pentheus embarks on a slow-motion death march.

At the burning of the palace, Meckler stunningly dims the overhead lights and sets them swaying, and then descending one by one to a few inches above the stage floor where the women lie in grief.

This process involves doubling Euripides's Theban chorus with the Bacchae: so that Roger Frost has to deliver the story of Pentheus's death to the cannibal party which has just killed him.

That confusion apart, the scene sustains a lurid image of ecstatically messy horror, and achieves the full tragic dimension with Claire Benedict's long cry — a sound of animal anguish tugged up from the gut — as Agave recognizes the deception that has been practised on her by the kindly god.

Irving Wardle

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CONCERTS

Bournemouth
SO/Bamert
Royal Festival Hall

The mid-Thirties, when Schoenberg's Violin Concerto was written, was a troubled time for the composer. In exile from Nazi Germany and recuperating from serious illness in the United States, he produced a concerto which, for all its observance of 12-note principles, has the power to move its listeners on a purely human level.

Pierre Amoyal's performance with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra under Matthias Bamert projected much of its tense, fraught nature. If finally we were not entirely devastated, it was hardly the soloist's fault.

He was both courageous and introspective, spinning his line with fine regard for the text, propulsive quality of the work, but he failed ultimately to expose and exploit the underlying rawness.

One of Schoenberg's strengths is his feeling for texture, just as that of the Schoenberg concerto was always impeccably clear, so was his account of Brahms' Fourth Symphony a model of lucid textures.

The credit should be extended to the orchestra, who, notwithstanding the occasional fluff, played well as a team, allowing the antiphonal exchanges of the first movement to make their full impact.

The performance rarely sank to the level of the perfunctory on this occasion, and at its best — the close of the first movement — there was an urgency and an inevitability that raised it above the routine.

Barry Millington

LONDON
DEBUTS

Daniel Shapiro from Los Angeles was the 1988 winner of the Joanna Hodges international piano competition in California, which brought his London debut in the Academy of London's American Artists series. He was the soloist in Mozart's E flat Piano Concerto (K 271), a mostly spirited performance conducted by Richard Stamp at St John's, Smith Square.

Only in the central andante movement was the pianist apt to hold back from the music's minor key pathos and cloak it in a certain formality, as if to save the more expressive character for the sensuous minuet passage that intrudes into the finale. Otherwise the playing had a fleetness of fingerwork and a rhythmic poise and elegance.

Vanessa Latache was able to call on experience abroad as well as at home for her solo programme at the Purcell Room, where she made much of the contrast between form and content in her choice of works. The elegance of style in Mozart's B flat Sonata (K 370) was perfectly complemented by the precise and delicate judgement she brought to Schoenberg's *Six Little Pieces*, Op 19, the pearl of her programme.

On a more generous scale she embraced the romantic warmth of Schubert's A major Sonata (D 959) with open ardour marred only by a touch of over-pedalling, and although she did not entirely divest Franck's *Prelude, Chord and Fugue* of its organ-like associations, her strength of expressive phrasing brought it closer to the livelier spirit of Franck's *Symphonic Variations*.

Noel Goodwin

John 11/2

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Marriages of inconvenience

Is the mobile executive really putting his marriage at risk?

Victoria McKee looks at the facts

A Bristol doctor wrote to *The Times* last week about a potent source of ill health in Britain, the symptoms of which he is treating almost daily in his surgery. "In my work as a general practitioner I see families disrupted by repeated moves," Dr Robin Lambert wrote. "The sequence starts with the husband's promotion from one area to another. Months may go by before his wife and children are able to move to live with him again. In the meantime he is, in effect, a single man, living in a strange town, away from home comforts. He is easy prey to an extra-marital affair, while his wife and family become used to life without him..."

He talks of divorce and delinquency, psychological and psychosomatic problems which mark the downward spiral of upward mobility.

When Lambert's letter was published, the Institute of Personnel Management was holding its conference in Harrogate, with a special session for the problems of relocation and representations from the growing band of "relocation professionals".

Sue Shortland, one of the speakers, is manager of the CBI's Employee Relocation Council, set up in April 1986 "to link companies with counselling and service agencies" to minimize the trauma of repeated staff moves.

Firms on her roster include PMA Relocation Services, Counselling and Easy Move Relocation. "Both these companies are interesting because they are run by men who were in charge of big moves as company personnel managers," Shortland says.

PMA, in Luton, was started last year by Mike Ison, who masterminded the move of Lombard's London headquarters to Redhill, Surrey. Easy Move was set up in September by Raymond Bowker, who presided over the relocation of Touche Ross to Milton Keynes. Both stress their position as "independent", "people and procedure" specialists — opposed to most relocation companies which are little more than agents, than extensions of estate agents.

Paul Dickinson, a director of



Professional helpline: Sue Shortland takes the trauma out of staff moves by putting companies in touch with counselling and service agencies

PMA, says: "Where necessary, we can arbitrate between employee and employer. But if mobility is a clause in the contract, we do our best to help the employee make the most of it. It only costs a small amount to use us — maybe £400 per employee — but it's important to make him feel he's a very valued employee."

Raymond Bowker agrees, although his company's estimate is between £1,200 and £2,000 per employee, which includes access to a private helpline.

Both Bowker and Ison have personal experience of the problems with which they deal. "My wife is a teacher," Bowker says, "and I've got three children aged 18, 16 and 12, and I've been moved nine times in the past 20 years. It's put a lot of strain on my family."

Ison's wife Pat works with him at PMA. They have also been moved nine times "in about 19 years" and have two children, now both in

their twenties. "People think if your children are grown you're all right to move," Pat says, "but if children can't afford to leave home, you're pushing them out when they need you the most."

Lambert thinks banks and insurance companies are the worst offenders. But civil engineers, computer experts, motor industry

workers, employees of oil companies and public utilities and television executives are victims of the same unhappy syndrome.

Ray King-Underwood was moved three times in six years with Granada Television. "I had lived in Northamptonshire for 40 years, so the first time I was offered a move, to Yorkshire, I was reasonably keen. The second I was

strongly encouraged to help the company in Bristol, but the next I was quite bitter about, because they closed the unit I went to set up and I was offered a choice of redundancy or going to Bedford. I took Bedford."

Jackie Williams, whose husband David was moved four times in 14 years through his work with an

insurance company, resents "always having to push yourself forward" to make new friends. "After a while you forget the bad times," she says, "but you tend to become more independent — to run your own life. It can be difficult to get back to being a couple."

Most wives speak of this independence, which can be a major cause of marriages breaking down.

And the "grass widows", the men who commute long distances home on a weekly or monthly basis for a period of months or years, speak of the loneliness which makes them look for affection elsewhere. "It gets very lonely," says Harold, a design consultant in the motor industry who has commuted to Sweden, Holland and the United States. "An American lady befriended me and things got out of hand."

Bill Bowyer, a widower with a daughter aged 14, had just been promoted to "quality manager" for Shell Chemicals when he was told he had to move to Chester in 1986. "My wife and son had died in a car accident in 1982, my daughter had just settled down and I didn't want to uproot her education just four years later. But I also didn't want to leave the company in my early fifties and sacrifice 27 years. So I talked to my boss about it and we reached a compromise."

Trevor Davis, headmaster of the

infant and junior school in Balsall Common, Warwickshire, a commuter dormitory village at the heart of the Midland motorway system, complains of the 10 to 15 per cent turnover of pupils in the school each year.

Brian Holmes of Shell Chemicals (UK), which moved its head office from London to Chester at the end of 1987, says: "We all had personal difficulties and this has been quite a learning experience for us. We set up a relocation section to provide additional support to line-management and what surprised us is that hardly anyone left the company."

"Several people have moved up and their wives left them. Others had wives who gave up good jobs to follow them. Now our intake of young graduates is about 50-50 men and women, so it will be interesting to see how things change."

"There is no doubt that the full-time working wife is a factor against mobility — and staff reports say whether you are 'mobile' or not, I have turned down promotions for the sake of staying put."

The joke used to be that IBM stood for "I've Been Moved", but the company insists that's all been changed since the freewheeling Sixties and Seventies. The relocation package is so good nobody minds, says the press officer Bruce Clamp. "Our package includes 'look-see' trips to new locations, a guaranteed price for the home — a median between the lowest and the highest market values — paid for home trips if one half has to go before the other, legal costs and a cash lump sum."

In *Relocation News* (a publication of Sue Shortland's unit), a recent article by David Guest, a lecturer in the Department of Industrial Relations at the London School of Economics, was entitled "Relocation and Stress". It says that "just as much attention must be directed... at maintaining the morale and performance of those left behind."

Dr Lambert, who practises in Nailsea, a dormitory town for Bristol, says statistics show that patients visit their doctor more frequently within the first two years after relocation — and he asks why. "There are usually other factors which make them take their cough to the doctor. You probe a little and out it pours."

Outpourings include the common complaint that they felt forced to choose between a personal and professional future. That is a choice which Lambert feels should never have to be made. But, for the moment, he acknowledges that there is no useful prescription he can write for a national malaise.

BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

An early Christmas

The Birthright Trust, of which the Princess of Wales is patron, will be holding its Christmas Fair today at the Royal College of Obstetricians, 27 Sussex Place, London NW1, from 10am until 4pm. Admission is £3 (or £10 including a lunch of smoked salmon and champagne). Among the stalls — crammed with Christmas ideas — will be one run by the Duchess of York's stepmother, Susan Ferguson, launching her Beloved range of babywear. The charity, dedicated to helping women with difficulty in conceiving and carrying a baby, raised £30,000 at its fair last year.

Body beautiful

The Beauty Room at the Body Shop, the idea of an enthusiastic Body Shop franchisee, offers free talks on skin care, make-up and a holistic approach to health and beauty for groups of between eight and 15 women at selected branches in the London area. The talks last between 30 and 45 minutes and include a short video, and participants go away with information packs, samples or special offers. Beauty Rooms have been opening at a rate of one or two a year since the concept started in 1979. Two hour lectures are also available, for a fee. They are designed for groups of up to 50 and can be held on company premises. Further details from the Beauty Room at the Body Shop, 217 Kensington High Street, London W8 6BD (01-937 3461).

Victoria McKee

Quote me...



"Vanity in men now is seen as a positive trait." Mark Connolly, fashion editor of men's magazine *GQ*, to be launched next week.

Housewives sweep to fame

Artist Sally Swain has given some modern masters a new perspective, by putting unsung heroines in the picture

The most galling thing about being the wife of a Great Artist must be that it's always the mistress who hogs the limelight. She is immortalized in oils, while 'Er Indooors cleans up the mess afterwards.

All that has been remedied. Mesdames Miro, Matisse, Modigliani and others of the unsung sisterhood have found a champion in an Australian artist, Sally Swain. She has produced a series of paintings visualizing what would have happened if some modern masters had chosen subjects closer to home.

Great Housewives of Art is a collection of witty pastiches of famous pictures and familiar styles. There is Mrs Degas vacuuming the floor in a ballerina's tutu, Mrs Toulouse Lautrec can-canning her way through cleaning the lavatory, Mrs Gauguin entertaining topless Tahitians to a Tupperware party, and Mrs Dali hanging out drooping time-



"Mrs Boudry Won't Go to That Butcher Again" by Sally Swain, right



pieces on the washing line. Swain is not sure where the idea came from. She has always been interested in women's daily lives and irritated that they were rarely portrayed by the predomi-

nately male art world. "I wondered if there could be a connection between high art and the mundane life of women. I'm also a great admirer of modern painters, so they sort of came together.

But it's not really a case of lofty ideals. I wanted to produce some appealing pictures, make people laugh and perhaps provoke a few thoughts."

The ideas came quickly. Her version of the soundless scream, "Mrs Munch Bemoans the Tomato Sauce Stains on the Wall", stems from her days in a mixed student house. "The men were too busy changing the world to notice the mould on the plates."

Often it was just a matter of putting on the right amount of topspin. Monet's "Lilypond" is being cleaned by the hand of an unseen female; Duchamp's mountaineered "Mama Lisa" is kidding herself of "Those Unlucky Facial Hairs" with a ladies' razor.

She failed to realize "Mrs Henry Moore Gets That Empty Feeling", mainly because the original was sculpted.

Swain, aged 30 and the daughter of one of Australia's best-known cartoonists, had no formal art training. After a degree in psychology and a couple of false starts in community service, she "fell into" a job as an illustrator.

Great Housewives of Art has brought her some financial success. But, for the moment, she plans to combine her illustration job with her next project, "maybe a twist on fairy tales".

Small, red-headed and gamin, Swain is more Left Bank than Bondi Beach. She lives in Sydney, where she shares a flat with another woman artist, a potter. Housework is kept to a minimum. One of the reasons she will not live with her doctor boyfriend Riju is that she finds herself clearing up after him. "Like a lot of feminists, I have trouble putting my ideals into my daily life." But he did supply the syringes she needed to squirt the paint for her version of Jackson Pollock: "Mrs Pollock Can't Seem To Find Anything Any More".

Liz Gill

Great Housewives of Art is published by Craftsman Books tomorrow (£4.99).

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THEATRE
LONDON

★ **ADAPT OR DYD:** Peter Dink Uys in his celebrated, scorchingly funny analysis of apartheid, Donmar Warehouse, 41 Easton St, WC2E (01-240 8230), Tube: Covent Garden. Opens tonight 7.45-9.15pm. Then Mon-Sat 7.45-9.15pm, Sat 7.30-9.15pm.

★ **THE ADMIRABLE CRICHTON:** J.M. Barrie's other desert island play, with Rex Harrison as the fabled actor and Edward Fox as his perfect butler. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (01-530 9522), Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, mat Sat 5-6.30pm. Sat 5-6.30pm, Sat 5-6.30pm.

★ **HEDDA GABLER:** Lindsay Duncan, Olivia Francis and Alex Norton in thrilling Ibsen production. Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (01-722 9224), Tube: Swiss Cottage. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4.30pm. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4.30pm.

★ **NOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES:** Light, early Ayckbourn comedy of social embarrassment. A Greenwiche Theatre Production. Duke of York's Theatre, St Martin's Lane WC2 (01-538 5122), Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15pm, mat Sat 5pm. Sat 5.15-8.15pm.

★ **LETITIA AND LOVAGE:** Geraldine McEwan and Sara Kestelman take over the leads in Peter Schaffer's smash comedy where two unlikely partners wage a war against the modern world. Globe Theatre, Shafesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 3667), Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.15pm, mat Sat 5-6.30pm, Sat 5.15-8.15pm.

★ **WORD-WATCHING**
Answers from page 24

COMMENSAL
(b) Two organisms that dine at the same table, as a sea anemone and a hermit crab, from the Latin *com* with *-mensa* table. "The table is very frequently inhabited by a commensal decapod crustacean."

BODRAG
(c) A hostile incursion or raid, perhaps from the Irish *bodrag* through meaning, disturbance; Spanish: "No slightly bodrag, nor too late and cruel."

TYMP
(a) The month of the month of a blast-furnace through which the molten metal descends, apparently an abbreviation of *tympa* a drum or similar instrument, such as a drum or tam-tam. "The melted iron descended to the lowest part of the furnace, called the tympe, the which being filled they unstap the hearth and open the metal therefor (or the tympe as the Art-men call it)."

JAMPAN
(c) A kind of sedan chair, carried by four men, used in the old country of India, from the Bengali *jampān*: "The usual mode of travelling is by Jampān - a conveyance not unlike a large clumsy chair, having a top from which curtains are suspended. They are carried by four men by means of poles fixed to the sides."

★ **THE MILLIONAIRES:** New regime under Sir Dunderdale opens with the late Shaw comedy. Barbara Flynn in the role of the Egyptian doctor who bargains with his heart. Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill, SE10 (01-858 7755), Train (BR), Greenwich (15 mins from Crooms Hill). Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat Sat 2.30pm and Sat eve 7.45pm. Mon-Fri 7.45-9.15pm, Sat eve 7.45-9.15pm.

★ **RE JOYCE:** Maureen Lipman reinvents James Joyce's *Ulysses* in monologue and song with Daria King at the piano. Fortune Theatre, (01-836 2238), Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, mat Sat 5pm.

★ **THE SECRET OF SHERRICK:** HOLMES: Jeremy Brett and Edward Hardwicke in a new adventure by Arthur Conan Doyle. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-857 1116), Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm and 8.30pm, mat Wed, Sat 5.15-8.15pm.

★ **LONG RUNNERS:** ★ Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Queen's Theatre (01-734 1166) ... ★ Cats: New London Theatre (01-405 0072) ... ★ Follies: Shaftesbury Theatre (01-373 5595) ... ★ 42nd Street: Drury Lane Theatre (01-838 8108) ... ★ Les Liaisons Dangereuses: Ambassador Theatre (01-836 6111) ... ★ Life and My Girl: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913) ... ★ Les Miserables: Palace Theatre (01-434 9839) ... ★ The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443) ... ★ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244) ... ★ The Secret of Sherrick: Fortune Theatre (01-836 2238) ... ★ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (01-828 8665)

OUT OF TOWN

★ **BASILDON:** The Tempest: Cheek by Jowl's national tour. Timothy Walker plays Prospero; Keith Bartlett plays the man with the wheel.

★ **COVENTRY:** In Touch: Grity Northern lass meets amiable Southern comedy writer through a dating agency; new comedy by David Hare.

★ **SCARBOROUGH:** ★ The Bear: Northern lass meets amiable Southern comedy writer through a dating agency; new comedy by David Hare.

FILMS

★ **Also on national release**

★ **In Advance booking possible**

★ **AU REVOIR, LES ENFANTS:** (PG) Louis Malle's moving, semi-autobiographical drama, set in a provincial boarding school in the last months of World War II. Two Gasparard Marassa heads the young non-professional cast (107 min). Curzon Mayfair (01-499 3737), Progs 1.30, 3.45, 6.10, 8.45.

★ **BIG (PG):** Tom Hanks plays the child turned grown-up in this latest role-reversal comedy from Hollywood. Penny Marshall directs (115 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-362 5086), Progs 1.40, 4.35, 7.05, 9.35.

★ **CRIMINAL MINDS:** (PG) The twisted iron descend to the lowest part of the furnace, called the tympe, the which being filled they unstap the hearth and open the metal therefor (or the tympe as the Art-men call it).

★ **BUSTER (15):** Singer Phil Collins makes his cinema debut in a film surveying the life and loves of Buster Edwards of Great Train Robbery fame (102 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-362 5086), Progs 1.40, 4.35, 7.05, 9.35.

★ **ODON SWISS COLOGNE:** (PG) Odon Swiss Cologne (01-802 8644), Progs 1.40, 4.35, 7.05, 9.35.

★ **PRINCE CHARLES:** (PG) Prince Charles (01-437 8187), Progs 1.40, 4.35, 7.05, 9.35.

Dancers with no names

A retrospective of George Kenneth's work is an important landmark in the rehabilitation of carved sculpture. Kenneth has been away in isolation, gradually filling his studio with a forest of small, unadorned figure carvings on plinths. They recall early Epstein, and like his mentor, Kenneth has been inspired by a range of artefacts from different periods and cultures. It was knowledge of Moore's and Hepworth's early carvings, exhibited in London while he was studying at the Royal Academy, which convinced him in 1937 that he should place out painting in favour of sculpture. The piece in Purbeck marble (right) - he doesn't like titles - is one of two interlocking dancing figures, the other is on the back. Stylistically, it echoes Gaudier-Brzeska and Brancusi and its lines and forms are identifiable those of sculpture made by direct carving. Unlike Moore, Kenneth makes neither maquettes nor preparatory drawings, allowing ideas instead to evolve as he chisels into the stone. He subscribes to the doctrine of "truth to material" which took over advanced British sculpture in the 1920s and 1930s, but whose practice nowadays is a passport to obscurity. The George Kenneth retrospective is at New Art Centre, 41 Smeane Street, London SW1 (01-235 5844), Monday to Friday 9.30am-6pm, Saturday 11am-3pm, free, until November 26. David Lee



DISTANT VOICES, STILL LIVES (15): The adventures of two scheming Americans in Liverpool in the 1940s and '50s - a moving exorcism of family ghosts, ingeniously set to popular music. With Freda Dowie and Peter Postlethwaite (85 min). Odeon Leicester Square (01-836 0891), Progs 1.20, 3.15, 5.10, 7.10, 9.10.

★ **DREAM DEMON (18):** An American girl searching for her roots comes to the aid of a soulless bride who experiences a horrific nightmarish. Fanciful British horror film, directed by Harley Cokkie, with Kathleen Winkler and Jemma Redgrave (83 min). Odeon Leicester Square (01-836 0891), Progs 1.30, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45.

★ **A FISH CALLED WANDA (15):** The adventures of two scheming Americans in Liverpool in the 1940s and '50s - a moving exorcism of family ghosts, ingeniously set to popular music. With Freda Dowie and Peter Postlethwaite (85 min). Odeon Leicester Square (01-836 0891), Progs 1.20, 3.15, 5.10, 7.10, 9.10.

★ **THE FRUIT MACHINE (18):** Letter to Breznev from Frank Clarke, is behind, the comedy film, directed by Frank Clarke, with Emile Charles, Tony Forsyth and playing a drag queen called Annabelle, Robbie Coltrane (102 min). Odeon Leicester Square (01-836 0891), Progs 1.20, 3.15, 5.10, 7.10, 9.10.

★ **GOOD MORNING, VIETNAM (18):** Robin Williams in a military comedy about a DJ sent to Vietnam to keep up the morale of the troops. Directed by Barry Levinson (121 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-362 5086), Progs 1.20, 3.15, 5.10, 7.10, 9.10.

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★ **CLAVIERALISTICUM CONCERT:** Following his successful South Bank performance in August, John Ogdon repeats Scriabin's monster (3 1/2

EETPU votes for day of protest

By Tim Jones and Roland Rudd

Senior electricity supply industry executives were considering legal action against the EETPU electricians' union last night after its members had voted narrowly for industrial action in support of the trade unionists' dismissal from the Government's top secret communications centre at Cheltenham.

Members of the Electrical Electronic Telecommunications & Plumbing Union in the electricity supply industry overwhelmingly rejected one-day strike action but decided by 6,511 votes to 6,283 to support the day of protest which is being organized for next Monday.

The union's members in Government departments also rejected a strike but voted for protest action by 1,142 votes to 1,122.

Although the EETPU is no longer affiliated to the TUC, the decision by its members in the industry to reject strike action is a blow to the movement, which had hoped to turn next Monday into a day of mass demonstration in support of the "basic human right to belong to a trade union".

Even more worrying for the TUC and the Council of Civil Service Unions is the news that members of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation and the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, representing 150,000 members, are also set to reject strike action.

Whitehall's biggest union, the Civil and Public Services Association, will announce today that its normally militant members have voted only narrowly for a strike.

The National Union of Civil and Public Servants, with 110,000 members, is understood to have backed the strike call by a majority of up to two to one.

Last night, Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary of the EETPU said: "Our union's action has never been directed against industry, still less against the private user of electricity."

"It has been aimed at the Government as a protest against their action in depriving employees at GCHQ of the right to join the union of their choice."

Mr Hammond said the "adverse voting" in the Civil Service unions "clearly indicates the lack of concern amongst those directly involved and this must have affected our members' response".

Mr Hammond said the Government should rescind the strike-free agreement offered by the Civil Service unions and underwritten by the TUC.

He added: "Let us put an end to this nonsense and so enable the Prime Minister to look Lech Walesa and his Solidarity colleagues in the eye; and what is more important, be a powerful voice for freedom and the individual with the Polish and other totalitarian Governments".

Ready for the health charges battle



Calm before the storm: Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Secretary of State for Health, leaves No 10 Downing Street in jocular mood for the Commons debate

Lawson announces an extra £2bn for the NHS

Continued from page 1

abolished, there will be no increase in contribution rates because of the healthy state of the Fund. Class 1 contributions will remain at 9 per cent for employees and 10.45 per cent for employers.

Mr Lawson said economic growth this year looked like being 4.5 per cent compared with the 3 per cent forecast in March. Investment was particularly strong, with manufacturing investment expected to show the biggest increase of all at 18 per cent.

Mr Lawson said investment had grown twice as fast as consumption over the past five years. Unemployment

had been reduced by nearly one million since 1986.

Inflation, he admitted, was likely to be running at 6 per cent in the last quarter of 1988 although it would be only 5 per cent if mortgage interest rate increases, not counted in many other countries, were excluded.

Although manufacturing exports were up 7 per cent, imports were up 13 per cent, Mr Lawson said.

"This has led to a substantially greater current account deficit than I forecast at the time of the Budget. For 1988 as a whole this now looks like turning out at £13 billion, equivalent to 2.75 per cent of

GDP." Total tax revenues were likely to exceed the Budget forecast by £3.5 billion.

The Budget forecast that there would be a £3 billion repayment of the national debt was therefore also revised upwards. The Chancellor now expects to make a public sector debt repayment of £10 billion, equivalent to 2 per cent of GDP.

Two successive years of debt repayment have not been achieved since records began in the 1950s.

Mr Lawson forecast growth in 1989 at about 3 per cent, with domestic demand up by a similar amount. Growth

would be reduced in the second half of next year to 2.5 per cent, with demand down to 1.5 per cent. But the current account deficit, he said, was expected to decline only marginally to £11 billion by the end of next year.

Inflation, he said, would peak at some point in the middle of next year before falling back to 5 per cent by the fourth quarter.

Mr Lawson said it had been a "considerable achievement" by Mr Major to have sustained the planning total for the year ahead, although the planning totals for the next two years had been increased. He said the Government had decided

it was right to allow more money in the years ahead, particularly since that could be done within the overriding aim of having public expenditure steadily decline as a share of GDP.

Mr Lawson said that less than half the increase in the provision for health accounted for higher pay, including the review body awards. In real terms there would be a 4.5 per cent increase for the health service.

He made it plain that the tax-cutting ambition remained. The Government would achieve a 20 per cent basic rate as and when it was prudent and sensible to do so.

Errors of Budget compounded, says Labour

By Robin Oakley Political Editor

The Chancellor's autumn statement was condemned by Mr Gordon Brown, the Labour Treasury spokesman, as a set of measures which compounded rather than corrected the errors of the Budget.

The Labour spokesman predicted that keeping to the £167 million planning total while inflation was rising to 6 per cent would inevitably mean cutbacks in essential public services. It should have been increased to £172 billion merely to allow for inflation.

Mr Brown, in another highly effective despatch box performance, excoriated the quiddling of the trade deficit as "this Government's distinctive trade mark" and said inflation was now higher than when Mr Lawson became Chancellor.

The British deficit, as a share of national income, was now almost on the scale of the US trade deficit which Mr Lawson had criticised so sharply.

As for the extra health spending, while Labour welcomed any such increase it would hardly cover the basic inflationary pressures within

the NHS. Britain would still be spending a smaller proportion of national income on health than any of its competitors.

Mr Neil Kinnock said: "The Chancellor announced the same planning totals this year as last year despite his admission that the inflation rate is over 6 per cent."

"The word that most accurately describes that arrangement is 'cut', and that is what the statement means for pensioners and others on low incomes and for programmes that are essential for the strengthening of the economy."

While Tory MPs were generally delighted with Mr Lawson's statement, some pointed to his remarks on the buoyancy of tax revenues and

asked why, if there was so much money flowing in, the Government had had to put the party through the political trauma occasioned by the planned charges for eye tests and dental checks, the subject of last night's major revolt.

Continuing Tory nervousness on inflation was shown with some calls for tighter controls on lending, especially by credit card companies.

The British Medical Association said much more than the extra amounts provided by the Chancellor were still needed for the NHS.

Political sketch

The silent Dame in the footlights

Each of us is aware of embarrassing gaps in our knowledge where, to ask for enlightenment, would be to admit ignorance. And as time goes by, the shame of not knowing deepens. Soon, it is impossible to ask. One man spent a term at Oxford wondering where the bath-rooms were — not having asked in the first week.

Changing schools, I missed decimals, have never understood them, and stick to vulgar fractions. Mr Lawson has the opposite problem and during one fluff on Tuesday, new funds for the NHS stumbled from £14 million to £14m, £14m and back to £14m. I would gladly explain about fractions but, as Chancellor, I expect he'd be ashamed to enquire.

So it takes courage for me to ask this: but why do we have old age pensions? Why are pensioners given free bus-passes? Why are they exempted from prescription charges? If it's because they are more likely to be poor or sick, then why not make poverty or ill-health the tests of entitlement? Why is being old the criterion? I once asked the Secretary of State this, but he didn't seem to know either, muttering something about them having paid it in, therefore wanting it back — more an argument for piggy-bank than a benefits system. Soon, no doubt, we shall hear the argument that as millions of pensioners drive cars and their lives depend on the vehicles' safe mechanical condition, free garage checkups would save the nation more than they cost the Exchequer.

Dame Jill Knight would think me flippant. It is she who is leading the charge against charges — for dental and eye checkups — for pensioners, and yesterday the Health Secretary, Kenneth Clarke, had to face her cavalry.

The Dame was once a promising actress, and something of the footlights lingers. An encounter with her leaves you confused as to whether you have just met Jill Knight playing the Queen Mother, or Beryl Reid playing Dame Jill Knight. But Kenneth Clarke is confusing, too. Many Tories affect a sort of plain-man's bonhomie, giving the impression of a smooth stockbroker pretending to be an ordinary beer-drinker. Mr

Clarke gives the impression of an ordinary beer-drinker pretending to be a Top Tory. But questions to the Health Minister turned out to be a sort of phoney war. The Dame and her cohorts were there. She sat almost behind Mr Clarke, dressed all in sombre swirls, but heaving passionately. But silent. Other Dames might rise and fall — Dame Elaine Kellie-Bowman did — but this Dame kept her counsel. Even when Labour's Graham Allen raised the awful subject directly — would charges not inhibit preventative medicine? — she seemed to sigh, but said nothing. This made Mr Clarke nervous. But no sound — save the rustle of the Dame's skirts — pierced the gloom.

It was frustrating that this — his first appearance at the Despatch Box as Health Secretary — should be only battle-postponed. David Mellor, who has done his stint at upsetting the Israelis and been sent home to the Health Department to see who else he can upset, also appeared for the first time. Edwina Currie, the Great Upsetter, sat beside Mr Mellor, glancing coolly at the trainee hooligan as a tigress might regard its cub. But attack was there none.

Then Jill Knight rose. Instant hush. She savoured it, pausing. And asked a question on something completely different — donor organs. Slowly, as it dawned on the Chamber that they would have to wait until the specific debate, scheduled for later, the atmosphere relaxed. Labour's Frank Haynes (the loudest voice in the House) bellowed at Mr Clarke, everyone egging him cheerily on. Mr Clarke, whose constituency adjoins Mr Haynes's, remarked that he could all but hear Mr Haynes every Saturday morning, from over the constituency frontier — and the session giggled.

John Townsend tried a pre-emptive strike in favour of charges. If Mr Townsend were to audition for the role of a bloodlessly unsympathetic Northern gravel-pit owner in a play about the Great Depression, he would be rejected for hamming. Dame Jill Knight's bosom heaved more sorrowfully yet. But still silent. Her hour awaited.

Matthew Parris

£2m racket in houses

Continued from page 1

address service said yesterday that about half a dozen messages would be left for "Mr Jones" each week. The man who picked up the messages was white and stopped using the service on October 12.

The parents of three Nigerian seeking accommodation for their children studying in London are among the users of the illegal system, according to Leslie Winters, a Conservative councillor who discovered the trade in flat keys a few weeks ago.

He blames what he sees as the left-wing council's reluctance to collect rents from its

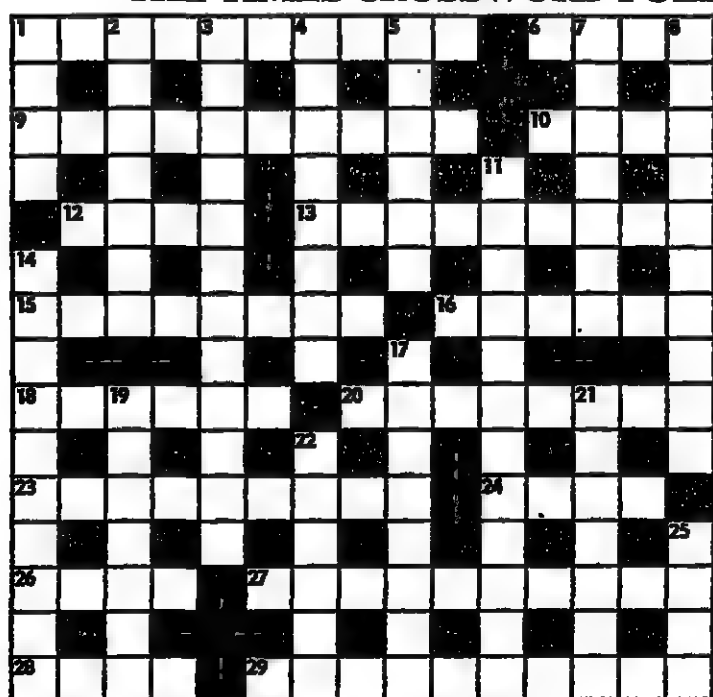
tenants and its lax attitude to keeping up-to-date records for the problem.

"Heads must roll over this. It is a scandalous situation that, I understand, involves about £2 million in payments," Mr Winters said. He wants police to investigate.

Mr Mike Wilson, Brent's director of housing, confirmed that he had learned of the illicit trade in tenancies a few weeks ago when he received two letters from local people.

"We are now going to check all 21,000 tenancies to identify the illegal occupiers," he said. He blamed lack of resources for the ineffective monitoring.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,816



- ACROSS**
- Father goes to fish — with sea so rough it's an energetic pursuit (5-5).
 - Call round (4).
 - See one's map, possibly, as a magic means of reaching one's objective (4,6).
 - Transfer from the Police Department (4).
 - Stop snake escaping from the top of the road (4).
 - To illuminate, I lengthen switch (9).
 - Return subscriptions without a helper in course of teaching (8).
 - A great number turned into party machine (6).
 - Property of French art gallery (6).
 - After fish you sound almost ill or alcoholic (8).
 - Capitalist fellow, one more effeminate (9).
 - Not, by the sound of it, what row is about (4).
 - Sign from 6 people (4).
 - Providing sustenance — provided, for instance, in a clergyman's job (4-6).
- DOWN**
- Quiet crowd take part in conspiracy (4).
 - Prove superior to the pitcher out of holy writ (7).
 - University in favour of key to deciphering texts (7,5).
 - Schooler seen in the west at sunset (8).
 - Simony — plain and unadorned? (6).
 - Characters from it are in idleness (7).
 - A means of helping the growth of a young family (10).
 - A late developer from Aylesbury? (4,8).
 - Part of London in Newfoundland? (4,2,4).
 - PM's daughter a foreign national (8).
 - The line taken by a coloured gentleman (7).
 - Let this instrument replace a clarinet? (7).
 - In the last game, I'll provide the finishing touch (6).
 - I put up about a pound — look closely (4).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- COMMENSAL**
- A formal opening
 - Sharing the same table
 - Months of equal lengths
- RODRAG**
- A handkerchief or wound-cloth
 - The scumming at the Eton Wall Game
 - A hostile attack
- TYMP**
- Plute of a West-Indies
 - A semi-circus
 - A type of watermark
- JAMPAN**
- A Japanese schooner
 - A jelly pan
 - An Indian sedan chair

Answers on page 22, column 1

Solution to Puzzle No 17,815

ACROSS
1 FATHER GOES TO FISH — WITH SEA SO ROUGH IT'S AN ENERGETIC PURSUIT (5-5)
2 CALL ROUND (4)
3 SEE ONE'S MAP, POSSIBLY, AS A MAGIC MEANS OF REACHING ONE'S OBJECTIVE (4,6)
4 TRANSFER FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT (4)
5 STOP SNAKE ESCAPING FROM THE TOP OF THE ROAD (4)
6 TO ILLUMINATE, I LENGTHEN SWITCH (9)
7 RETURN SUBSCRIPTIONS WITHOUT A HELPER IN COURSE OF TEACHING (8)
8 A GREAT NUMBER TURNED INTO PARTY MACHINE (6)
9 PROPERTY OF FRENCH ART GALLERY (6)
10 AFTER FISH YOU SOUND ALMOST ILL OR ALCOHOLIC (8)
11 CAPITALIST FELLOW, ONE MORE EFFEMINATE (9)
12 NOT, BY THE SOUND OF IT, WHAT ROW IS ABOUT (4)
13 SIGN FROM 6 PEOPLE (4)
14 PROVIDING SUSTENANCE — PROVIDED, FOR INSTANCE, IN A CLERGYMAN'S JOB (4-6)

DOWN
1 QUIET CROWD TAKE PART IN CONSPIRACY (4)
2 PROVE SUPERIOR TO THE PITCHER OUT OF HOLY WRIT (7)
3 UNIVERSITY IN FAVOUR OF KEY TO DECIPHERING TEXTS (7,5)
4 SCHOOLER SEEN IN THE WEST AT SUNSET (8)
5 SIMONY — PLAIN AND UNADORNED? (6)
6 CHARACTERS FROM IT ARE IN IDLENESS (7)
7 A MEANS OF HELPING THE GROWTH OF A YOUNG FAMILY (10)
8 A LATE DEVELOPER FROM AYLESBURY? (4,8)
9 PART OF LONDON IN NEWFOUNDLAND? (4,2,4)
10 PM'S DAUGHTER A FOREIGN NATIONAL (8)
11 THE LINE TAKEN BY A COLOURED GENTLEMAN (7)
12 LET THIS INSTRUMENT REPLACE A CLARINET? (7)
13 IN THE LAST GAME, I'LL PROVIDE THE FINISHING TOUCH (6)
14 I PUT UP ABOUT A POUND — LOOK CLOSELY (4)

WEATHER

The cloud extending from north-west Scotland to East Anglia will extend south-westward, clearing frost or fog. Northern Ireland and west Scotland will remain cloudy with drizzle. Brighter intervals will reach central and south-east England later in the day. Scottish Highlands and far north-east as well as south-west England will be dry and bright.

ABROAD

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	23/13	10/10	0/10	b, c
Algeria	23/13	10/10	0/10	b, c
Algeria	23/13	10/10	0/10	b, c
Algeria	23/13	10/10	0/10	b, c
Algeria	23/13	10/10	0/10	b, c
Algeria	23/13	10/10	0/10	b, c
Algeria	23/13	10/10	0/10	b, c
Algeria	23/13	10/10	0/10	b, c
Algeria	23/13	10/10	0/10	b, c
Algeria	23/13	10/10	0/10	b, c

AROUND BRITAIN

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Scarborough	10/10	10/10	0/10	b, c
Scarborough	10/10	10/10	0/10	b, c
Scarborough	10/10	10/10	0/10	b, c
Scarborough	10/10	10/10	0/10	b, c
Scarborough	10/10	10/10	0/10	b, c
Scarborough	10/10	10/10	0/10	b, c
Scarborough	10/10	10/10	0/10	b, c
Scarborough	10/10	10/10	0/10	b, c
Scarborough	10/10	10/10	0/10	b, c
Scarborough	10/10	10/10	0/10	b, c

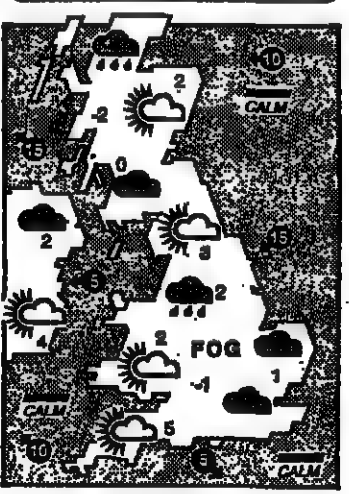
HIGH TIDES

Area	Time	Height
London Bridge	6.30	5.5
London Bridge	6.30	5.5
London Bridge	6.30	5.5
London Bridge	6.30	5.5
London Bridge	6.30	5.5
London Bridge	6.30	5.5
London Bridge	6.30	5.5
London Bridge	6.30	5.5
London Bridge	6.30	5.5
London Bridge	6.30	5.5

THE POUND

Area	Rate	Notes
Australia	2.35	
Australia	2.35	
Australia	2.35	
Australia	2.35	
Australia	2.35	
Australia	2.35	
Australia	2.35	
Australia	2.35	
Australia	2.35	
Australia	2.35	

AM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 6 pm, 13C (55F); min 6 pm to 8 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 8 pm, 90 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 8 pm, nil; 24hr to 6 pm, 0.3 in. Bar: mean sea level, 9 pm, 1021.9 millibars, falling 1,000 millibars-29.53 in.

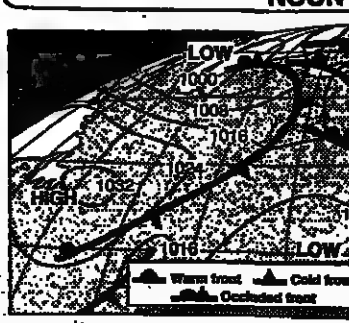
LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 5.02 pm to 6.28 am
Edinburgh 5.00 pm to 6.54 am
Manchester 5.04 pm to 6.42 am
Penzance 5.27 pm to 6.46 am

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

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MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share 1507.7 (+6.0)	US dollar 1.7645 (-0.0040)
FT-SE 100 1857.8 (+5.4)	W German mark 3.1532 (-0.0001)
USM (Datastream) 162.53 (+0.12)	Trade-weighted 76.5 (+0.1)

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Halifax names man for Europe

Britain's biggest building society, the Halifax, has announced its first major step into Europe. It has created the new post of divisional manager, European operations, to make sure it is not left behind when the market for financial services is opened up in 1992.

But it does not yet mean the establishment of a string of Halifax branches from Calais to Corfu.

The man appointed to the job, Mr Ian Lumsden, said his role was to examine how the Halifax could take advantage of the wider market.

Prowing up

Prowing, the housebuilder which came to the market in May, increased profits from £5.3 million to £10.7 million in the six months to end-August. Sales rose from £31.1 million to £43.3 million. An interim dividend of 1.7p was declared.

Times, page 26

Wm Low rises

Pre-tax profits at Wm Low, the Scottish food retailer, jumped 42 per cent to £11.5 million on turnover up 7.2 per cent to £265 million. The dividend was increased by 2p to 17p net.

Times, page 26

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2146.34 (-2.51)
Tokyo	28013.67 (+31.13)
Hong Kong	2815.43 (-11.98)
Australian 6m	225.1 (-0.5)
Sydney 6m	1384.8 (-0.5)
Frankfurt	1827.1 (-4.8)
Brussels	Closed
Paris 6m	Closed
Zurich 6m	489.2 (-4.0)
London	
FT All-Share	1507.7 (+6.0)
FT-100	1857.8 (+5.4)
FT Gold Mines	188.1 (+0.2)
FT Fixed Interest	37.73 (+0.10)
FT Govt Secs	88.38 (+0.08)
Recent losses	Page 28
Closing prices	Page 29

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RIBS:	
Lucas	585p (+25p)
Johnson Matthey	374p (+22p)
Reckitt & Colman	842p (+10p)
Body Shop	515p (+11p)
Yale & Veler	255p (+12p)
DAKS Simpson A	290p (+15p)
Greyhound	420p (+16p)
Ladbrokes	450p (+11p)
Hammerson	711p (+11p)
GR	580p (+48p)
Charter Comm	450p (+12p)
Traford Park	250p (+10p)
Schott	705p (+12p)
Morgan Grenfell	350p (+9p)
FALLES:	
Int Thomson	710p (-20p)
J Smurth	390p (-30p)
Recent Whitley	275p (-9p)
Closing prices	Page 28
Bearings	23740
SEAQ Volume	473.8m

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base:	12%
3-month interbank:	12%-12%
3-month eligible bills:	11%-11%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate:	10%
Federal Funds:	6-6%
3-month Treasury Bds:	7.35-7.35%
30-year bonds:	10.3%-10.3%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£ \$1.7645	£ \$1.7680
£ DM 1.532	£ DM 1.7847
£ Sfr 2.6520	£ Sfr 1.5017
£ FF 10.7690	£ FF 6.0965
£ Yen 221.09	£ Yen 125.32
£ Indus 75.5	£ Indus 75.5
ECU 10.656282	SDR 10.756135

GOLD

London Pading:	
AM \$411.00 pm \$410.90	
close \$411.00-411.50	(2233.00-2233.50)
New York	
Comex \$411.00-411.80	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Dec)	pm \$12.40 bid
Denotes latest trading price	

THE STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

Market news on Stock-watch yesterday included: engineering shares shrugged off their lethargy, with NEI (04575) 4p to the good and Hopkinsons (02374), in which NEI has a stake, up 4p. Chloride (02596) went ahead 4p on talk of an attempted management buyout. Continuing speculation on the Minorco bid saw ConsGold (02200) 7p better, while Chartered Consolidated (03253) and Johnson Matthey (01317) gained in sympathy.

Recent additions include: The Chieftain Group (03481); Estates General Inv 6% conv pref (03482).

Calls charged 5p for 8 seconds peak, 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.

*****RM

High interest rates, little for tax cuts and 7% inflation Squeeze on spending ahead

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Chancellor's autumn statement and the accompanying economic forecast, published yesterday, implies a tight squeeze on the economy with growth in consumer spending coming to a halt during next year.

The forecast, presented by Mr Nigel Lawson as a return to more sustainable growth, suggests that the present level of interest rates will be maintained until at least the middle of next year, and that there will be little or no tax cuts in the March Budget.

Even so, the current account deficit is expected to decline only marginally - from £13 billion to £11 billion - and inflation is officially predicted to continue to rise until the middle of next year. And, while there was some surprise in the City that this was not explicitly stated in the Chancellor's speech, the Treasury projections are based on a

stable exchange rate for the pound. Any fall in sterling would clearly add to the inflation risks in the economy.

The Treasury expects growth in the economy to come down from 4.5 per cent this year to 3 per cent for next year as a whole. However, it anticipates also that growth in the second half will be lower than in the first, with overall growth of only 2.5 per cent on a year earlier, and an increase in domestic demand of only 1.5 per cent year-on-year.

In his speech, the Chancellor conceded that: "The slower growth forecast for 1989 inevitably implies a marked deceleration during the course of the year, particularly so far as domestic demand is concerned."

The consumer spending slowdown, predicted by the Treasury, arises from a recovery in the saving ratio from its historically low level of 3.5 per cent this year, a reduction in real income growth as a result



Looking to a grey future: a Kleinwort Benson broker yesterday (Photograph: Marc Aspland)

of higher inflation and the impact of high interest rates on the private sector.

Mr Brian Pearce, secretary of the Item Club, sponsored by Ernst & Whinney, the accountant, which monitors Treasury forecasts, said the forecast assumed the present level of base rates would be held until mid-1989, and there would be no more than a 1 per cent reduction in interest rates by the end of next year.

The main danger in the forecast is that the sharp slowdown in spending expected by the Treasury will not occur and that inflation and the balance of payments will be even more of a problem than the Chancellor admitted. The forecast of a decline in the current account deficit is based on import growth slowing to 4.5 per cent next year, from 12 per cent this year, while export growth picks up to an optimistic 5.5 per cent, from 1.5 per cent this year.

Inflation is forecast to reach more than 6.25 per cent in the fourth quarter of this year, and continuing to rise until the middle of next year, when it is likely to be over 7 per cent - before dropping back to 5 per cent by the end of 1989.

Comment, page 27

On balance, the market stays quiet

By Our Economics Correspondent

Market reaction to the statement was muted. Dealers said that positive and negative elements offset one another.

Equities held early gains, but did not react to the statement. The FT-SE 100 index closed up 5.4 points at 1,857.8. Dealers said elements of the Treasury's forecast were bearish but were reluctant to respond too sharply to official forecasts which had been

badly wrong at Budget-time.

"This was a mildly constructive statement," said Mr Bill Martin, chief economist at Phillips & Drew, the broker. "The public spending figure was the most welcome surprise in it. There was some welcome fiscal restraint in there."

But he gave a warning about the inflation and growth. "They face a tougher choice between inflation and activity

than they care to admit. There was nothing in the statement about price stability and the inflation standard may now be 5 or 6 per cent."

Mr John Sheppard, economist at Warburg Securities, the market maker, said the £10 billion public sector debt repayment estimate this year could be too cautious with £13 billion more likely.

Market report, page 29

US indicators show further slowdown

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The US index of leading indicators dropped by an unexpected 0.1 per cent in September, continuing a slowing trend in the economy which is expected to remain until the end of the year.

The decline in activity combined with a gain in the key barometer of economic growth of 0.5 per cent in August.

But the financial markets hardly reacted to the data. Market forecasts suggested an 0.1 per cent gain in September.

The figures were released as members of the open market

committee of the US Federal Reserve Board met to chart the course of monetary policy over the next two months.

Analysts expected the Fed to stay on its present course, on the eve of the elections, despite the recent drop in the dollar.

There was widespread expectation that the dollar would be tested on the downside over the next two months, possibly requiring massive intervention.

Traders said the Fed was closely monitoring the market, after Monday's joint intervention with Japan, in

Allied in £105m US sale

By Our Energy Correspondent

Allied Lyons has sold the North American oil and gas assets acquired when it took over Hiram Walker, the Canadian distiller.

Gulf Canada Resources, which originally owned the assets, has exercised its right to repurchase them for Can\$227 million (£105 million).

The deal values the assets at about £5 a barrel according to analysts. They add that this is a far higher price than Allied Lyons would have received if they had sold them on the open market.

Mr Clifford Hatch, finance director at Allied Lyons, said the decision to dispose of the oil and gas holdings had no relevance to the possible interest in Allied Lyons of Mr Alan Bond, the Australian entrepreneur. He said that Allied Lyons knew that it did not want the oil and gas assets when it bought Hiram Walker in 1986.

The sale will reduce Allied Lyons debt and Mr Hatch added that the interest savings would outweigh the profits being made by the oil and gas businesses. Last year the assets, which have a book value of \$181.5 million (£102.6 million) returned a net profit of \$3.5 million.

The assets are in the Rocky Mountain region and the US Gulf coast.

B&C expected to net £240m in buyouts at subsidiaries

By Our Banking Correspondent

British & Commonwealth Holdings is close to announcing the sale of MW Marshall and William Street, two money broking subsidiaries, in separate management buyouts.

The deals, which could be completed by Christmas, end months of negotiation after the original agreement to sell to Quadrex Securities, headed by Mr Gary Klesch, fell through in February.

The two buyouts are expected to bring B&C up to

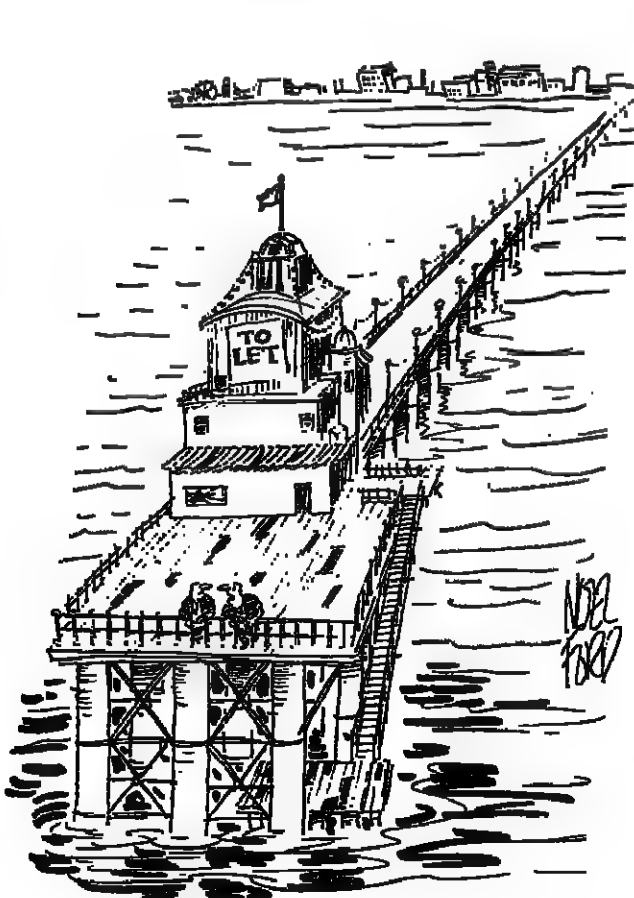
£240 million, considerably more than some City analysts were anticipating.

The negotiations have been prolonged by B&C needing to get the best possible price for the two broking businesses. It must do so as part of its court action against Quadrex, which it is suing for any shortfall in the ultimate sale of the companies compared with the original £280 million agreed with Quadrex.

B&C has been keen to secure large management

involvement in any eventual sale. The management of Marshall was particularly opposed to the deal with Quadrex because it felt it had not been consulted or given enough control over the company.

B&C has proved its commitment to management buyouts. In June, it presided over the second largest management buyout in Britain when it sold Broom, to the company's managers and a group of outside investors for £350 million.



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New electricity companies after power sell-off named

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The three new private companies which will emerge out of the nationalized electricity industry — one of them with a £7 billion turnover and ranking it among the world's largest companies — have been named.

The two power generating companies which will emerge from the present Central Electricity Generating Board will be known as National Power and the Power Generation Company.

National Power, with £7 billion turnover, will control 70 per cent of the existing network of power stations including all the present nuclear power stations.

The third new company, to be called the National Grid Company, will control the national transmission centre

in London and the high voltage network which crisscrosses the country, linking power stations with area substations.

National Power will have 30,900 megawatts of conventional power generation capacity and 9,000 megawatts of nuclear generation capacity.

Its chief executive-designate, Mr John Baker, who is the CEBG corporate managing director, said yesterday that National Power will be very different from the CEBG, but will build on the best features of the CEBG. It is already looking at new initiatives, he said.

"The electricity market is very buoyant. There is growing recognition of the need for nuclear power, not least for environmental reasons."

"We shall have opportunities in fuel purchasing to reduce costs, for we shall be free to look for the cheapest fossil fuel from any source."

"There will be scope for new management initiatives: more flexible ways of financing plant, for example."

National Power, and the other two new companies, will operate in shadow form as divisions of the CEBG until they receive legal status, probably in January 1990.

The second generating company, will be known by its shortened name, PowerGen, and it will control 38 conventional power stations with a capacity to produce 18,700 megawatts.

Its chairman-designate, Mr Robert Malpas, a former BP director, said: "We wanted

power generation in our name because it describes exactly what our business will be."

PowerGen will have its headquarters in Solihull, West Midlands, with a small base in London.

The National Grid Company will also own the cross-country link through which France can supply the equivalent of output from two of its nuclear power stations.

It will also control the link across the border from Scotland and the pumped storage power stations at Dinorwig and Ffestiniog, Gwynedd.

Mr David Jeffries, its chairman-designate, said: "Our commitment is to establish a company which will keep its performance very sharp, to ensure that the benefits of competition are achieved."

C&W bid for TR is extended

By Our City Staff

Cable and Wireless has extended its £284 million offer for Telephone Rentals, the business telephone systems supplier, for four weeks until November 28.

At the same time it announced that it had received 0.42 per cent of acceptances by the first closing date on Monday. This brings C&W's holding in TR to 2.56 per cent.

TR shares fell 9p to 339p yesterday following the extension, which was not accompanied by an increase in C&W's 305p-a-share bid.

Mr Gordon Owen, C&W's deputy chief executive, warned that if his group failed to acquire Telephone Rentals it would develop its own equipment distribution and maintenance business in Britain in direct competition with TR. This could be achieved by starting a new company with personnel and expertise from CSL, a C&W wholly-owned Hong Kong company.

Mr Gus Moore, group managing director of TR, said the claim that C&W could successfully set up its own maintenance and distribution business was "naïve and wholly unconvincing". TR is soon to set out its profits and dividend forecast for the current year.



Value adding move: Michael Darby, chairman (left), and David Boddy, the finance director yesterday preparing for the group's listing on the US market (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

Darby heads for USM debut

By Alexandra Jackson

Darby Group, the manufacturer and distributor of specialist glass products, is coming to the Unlisted Securities Market through a placing of 3.9 million shares at 115p. This values the company at £16.8 million and raises £2.7 million of new money, net of expenses.

Darby adds value to its basic raw material, float glass, producing tempered or safety

glass although its range includes insulating glass units and door and window systems.

Funds raised through the placing are expected to strengthen the group's capital base and enable it to add to its manufacturing capacity for tempered glass. Acquisitions, as well as organic growth, will be part of future strategy.

The shares being placed represent 27 per cent of the

enlarged equity. On a pre-tax profit forecast of £1.9 million for the year to March 3, and earnings per share of 9.63p, the shares stand on a p/e ratio of 11.9 times at the placing price. The yield at the placing price is forecast to be 3.7 per cent. Dealings are expected to start on November 7.

Darby had pre-tax profits of £1.2 million in the year to end February on sales of £7 million.

How TV Kestrel flew for S&N

By Rosemary Unsworth
Retail Affairs
Correspondent

Television viewers impressed by the speed with which Scottish & Newcastle devised an advertisement for its Kestrel lager, comparing it favourably with a non-existent Australian brew, may be even more surprised to learn how the Scottish company was able to be so quick.

For the advertisement was made and first shown four years ago — long before Elders IXL, the Australian Foster's lager manufacturer, had made its hostile £1.6 billion bid.

Devised by Collet Dickenson Pearce, one of Britain's leading creative agencies, the commercial shows a Australian beer drinker, complete with corked hat, sitting on a verandah in the outback, sipping a beer called Kangabrew. The arrival of S&N's Kestrel moves him to comment that, despite its foreign origins, it makes the indigenous drink taste like sheep dip.

S&N has been particularly smart in re-using the advertisement, which now carries a line reminding viewers that Kestrel is an S&N brand, because the Takeover Panel usually takes a strict view over "knocking" advertising allowed during a bid. This time it agreed it could be re-used.

Mr Alick Rankin, S&N's chief executive, has written to the group's publicans, saying the board believes its brands would be emasculated by Elders' "Fosterization" philosophy.

He urged them to resist the bid by writing to their local MP, or to the Office of Fair Trading, asking for the bid to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Kelt Energy has 6.24% Carless stake

Kelt Energy, which has launched a hostile £210 million bid for Carless, the much larger independent oil company, has added 250,000 shares to its stake, buying in the market at 110p. This takes its holding to 11.2 million shares or 6.24 per cent.

Kelt, which is offering 115p a share for Carless, is planning to bring out its formal offer document in the next day or so with a 21-day period to the first closing date. Meanwhile, WI Carr, the broker, has published a circular arguing that Kelt's bid undervalues Carless.

COMMENT David Brewerton Never mind spending, worry about sterling

The contrast between the Chancellor's buoyant tone and the worrying projections in yesterday's autumn statement did not go down well in the City.

On the face of it, the gilt-edged market, at least, should have been cheered by the evidence that public spending is under the firmest control, for that is what the November ritual is supposed to be all about. This year's net spending is running below the Budget forecast and next year's budgeted spending has been kept in line with the previously planned total without resort to the Star Chamber. Most observers had written in at least an extra £3 billion.

Yet gilt-edged, though marginally up on the day, reacted negatively to the Commons news. Long gilt futures, in particular, surrendered all their earlier cheerful gains after Nigel Lawson resumed his seat. There were few worries in the markets about public spending or the fiscal balance, so good news on that front had already been devalued by years of success.

The Chancellor's forecast that growth of 4.5 per cent this year (against the Budget forecast of 3 per cent) will only shade to 3 per cent next year is substantially above most City forecasts, even allowing for the statistical momentum created by this summer's mini-boom.

That will certainly provide no balm for today's worries about inflation, trade and sterling. Mr Lawson prepared the

way for his forecasts of inflation and the trade gap in his Mansion House speech. The projection of inflation still rising next spring from a base above 6 per cent now looks no more than realistic, rather than conservative.

On the trade front, the prospect of demand growth, outside the consumer sector, remaining fairly buoyant should not be seen in isolation. Other leading economies are growing much faster than expected even a few months ago. Yesterday, for instance, West German economics minister Martin Bangemann told a Japanese audience that the West German economy should grow by 4 per cent in 1988.

Even so, as Stephen Lewis of Phillips & Drew points out, Mr Lawson seems to be relying heavily on a strong pound rather than net exports to provide even a modest cut in Britain's yawning trade gap next year.

Relying on the terms of trade means Mr Lawson is committing himself to a strong pound, a hostage to fortune when Britain's inflation will be much higher than that in Germany, the United States or Japan. It also leaves British economic management vulnerable to the unpredictable currency squalls that may follow the US presidential election.

Interest rates are the residual in this equation. The Chancellor will not be anxious to raise them further, if he can avoid it. But the autumn statement makes it more likely than ever that, regardless of month-to-month fluctuations, high interest rates are here to stay.

Shopping for better news

Little joy in the Chancellor's statement for the retail sector in particular, which is already one of the poorest of the poor performers in the London market. From the last quarter of 1985 the stores sector has been in relentless relative decline, enlivened only by the occasional bout of speculative activity. In the share prices of most of the industry leaders, shares such as Dixons, Burton Group, Storehouse and even Woolworth Holdings, there is no trace at all of the "credit boom" which has been worrying both the Government and consumer groups. Some are just a few pence from their post crash lows, few are anywhere near their highs.

Retail analysts have been predicting a downturn in retail trade for most of this year, but growth has in fact been strong with retail sales by value rattling along at 10 per cent above last year. But the High Street is set to bear the brunt of the slowdown in economic growth forecast by Mr Lawson, while the continuing high level of interest rates implied but unstated by the Chancellor will drive home the message to would-be buyers that they should perhaps think twice before running riot with expensive storecard credit.

Consumers are already feeling the pinch. Personal sector debt, all of which is at floating interest rates, now exceeds equivalent assets by £16 billion, the combined result of the consumer boom and high levels of mortgage borrowing. This compares with 1980, when the personal sector had a net asset position of £30 billion.

Much of the consumer spending has been stimulated by the frantic activity in the housing market, either among people actually moving house or by people who "feel rich" because the value of their homes have appreciated so fast. That stimulus, too, is rapidly on the wane as the impact of mortgage rate increases is felt on the monthly budget. And the income tax cuts which we were supposed to save rather than spend have been spent several times over.

The imminent slowdown in consumer spending may be masked by what happens over Christmas. Compared with last year, when spending was reduced by the so-called wealth-effect in the aftermath of the stock market crash, the figures will look good. But it is likely to prove to be only temporary respite before the decline sets in in the new year.

SelecTV to make £1.6m rights issue

By Martha Waller

SelecTV, the cable TV company which has been losing money for six years, is raising £1.64 million by means of a rights issue, as part of its reverse takeover by Witzand Productions, the producer of *Aut Witzanden*, *Pet* and other popular TV series.

Mr Michael Buckley and Mr Allan McKeown, the joint owners of Witzand, are receiving 15 million new SelecTV shares for their company and taking up their rights, giving them 39 per cent of the merged company.

Mr Buckley, at one time the chairman of Benlox Holdings and Tranwood Group, becomes chairman. Mr Mc-

Keown, the TV producer, becomes chief executive in charge of production and development.

After the call, Mr Robert Maxwell's Pergamon Holdings and Maxwell Communication Corporation, which have long held a stake of SelecTV, will have 20 per cent.

The call proceeds will go to funding the development of a film library, which will take advantage of forthcoming changes in broadcasting.

The merged company will benefit from the forthcoming requirement that a minimum of 25 per cent of British broadcasting should be made by independent companies.

Brierley eases way for UK investment

By Graham Searjeant

Sir Ron Brierley, the New Zealand financier, has called off a putative merger of Brierley Investments (BIL), his New Zealand master company, and its Australian offshoot, Industrial Equity (IEL).

But the group has devised a simpler method of increasing its efforts to invest in Britain and the United States.

IEL will sell to BIL its 51 per cent stake in Hong Kong Industrial Equity Pacific, the third strategic group company, which was set up as Sir Ron's international arm and is 80 per cent owned by various group companies. BIL itself will now own 70 per cent. IEP owns the group's stakes

in Ocean Transport, English China Clay, William Low, Ultramar, Mount Charlotte and Mowlem, and its majority holding in Tozer Kemsley.

Sir Ron now intends to concentrate on developing IEP with the bigger direct financial resources and liquidity of BIL, which has sold several holdings in the past nine months.

The price of HK\$14.60 (£1.05) per IEP share was nearly 50 per cent above the market price, valuing IEP at Aus\$2.5 billion (£1.15 billion). Sir Ron will take temporary leave as chairman of IEL, which will now expand its Australian interests.

A peculiar ally for Elders

Scottish & Newcastle has made itself a powerful enemy. Paul Theakston, still bitter at the treatment he received when, after a chain of takeover bids, the company ended up owning his family brewery, has, I hear, come out in favour of the Elders bid. Once chairman and managing director of Theakston's, the North Yorkshire brewery founded by his great-great-grandfather in 1827, Paul sold out to Matthews Brown in 1984, after a High Court battle, and then Scottish & Newcastle bought Brown.

"I don't have any sympathy for them," he says contemptuously. "All the phrases they are coming out with are the same as Matthew Brown used and which S&N denied. When S&N took over Matthews Brown it had just acquired about 50 per cent of Langdale, the timeshare company, and S&N argued that what Matthews Brown was doing — diversifying — was irresponsible. Yet now S&N has just acquired Pontins, which is a mirror image of the Matthews Brown situation." Paul, aged 43, stayed on at Theakston's head office in Masham until this April, when S&N effectively demoted him, claiming it wanted its own man at the helm. "I didn't want to become a big company executive at the whim of someone in Edinburgh. So I left." As an S&N shareholder, Theakston received the Elders offer document last week. "I hope Elders succeed," he says.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

A pragmatic approach

Feeling just a little bit bored after his trial six-month "retirement," Michael Prag, once the senior partner of Simon & Coates, the stockbroker, and head of equities at Chase Manhattan Securities — which bought Simon & Coates in 1986 — until May this year, has landed a full-time job on the other side of the fence. As of yesterday he has become an investor rela-

tions consultant to TI Group, the industrial conglomerate, and is based at its offices in London's Curzon Street. Prag, aged 52, had been with Coates for 29 years. "For two of those years I was with Chase but I wasn't for me so I left. I thought I might put together two or three directorships but in the end decided that that wouldn't give me enough to get my teeth into," he says.

Bear view

From the first Tuesday in 1989, *Izvestia*, the Soviet government newspaper, plans to publish a weekly two-page supplement, exclusively for advertisements for Western goods. Initially, the advertising copy — which will be

handled by the West German company Burda Modem — will appear in the Moscow edition (circulation 450,000) and in the 50,000 copies of *Izvestia* sent abroad each day. Since these supplements will enjoy a monopoly in the USSR, Igor Golembiovski, *Izvestia*'s executive editor, says that a full page will cost \$50,000. All the advertisements must also "confirm with our principles and norms — ethically, politically, morally and legally." To ensure Soviet citizens are not exposed to too much Western consumerism the *Izvestia* editorial board reserves the right to make "corrections."

● The sense of urgency shown by the police in tracking down and prosecuting car tax dodgers is, it seems, not shared by the DVLC in Swansea. On the envelopes containing renewal reminders is boldly printed: "If undelivered, please do not return to sender."

Heading for Arrow

Life on the board of Tony Berry's Blue Arrow is not always easy. But its latest recruit should be no stranger to the world of political infighting. John Sharkey, who is joining to run all Blue Arrow's British operations with the exception of the Manpower chain, was previously managing director of Saatchi & Saatchi. During his two year stint there he headed the team which claims to have re-elected the Tories. According to the amiable Berry, his company and the ad agency have long had a "close professional relationship" — the Saatchis handle most of Blue Arrow's advertising. But in reality the links run a little deeper. The non-executive director who spotted Sharkey was, I hear, none other than Norman Tebbit, who was Tory Party chairman at the time of the said election. Sharkey, the City will be reassured to learn, is not just an arty ad man. He spent two years teaching mathematics, which had been his chosen subject at university.

Letter head

To be sure, to be sure... An amused Colin Ely, an accountant with Capel-Cure Myers, the stockbroker, based in Holborn Viaduct, has received a letter from a client in Eire. It was addressed to Colin Elydy Ely, Messrs Capel-Cure Myers, 65 Holborn Viaduct, London. "Who are they calling duff?" queried a spokesman for the firm.

Carol Leonard

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7/11/88

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FINANCING THE GAP
BETWEEN
SALES AND SETTLEMENT

Statement leaves City disillusioned

Declining issues held a moderate lead over advancing shares. Scars. Roebuck was active, down $\frac{3}{8}$ at 41 $\frac{3}{8}$ after a fall of

● **Hong Kong** — Share prices closed lower in sluggish trading with the Hang Seng index closing 11.98 points lower at 2,615.43.

said they would take the opportunity to study the statement in more detail later today but any hopes that it would provide the market

Trading almost ground to a halt ahead of the speech and

the Stock Exchange's computerized trading system.

Consolidated Gold Fields, the mining finance house

Gold Chairman, will undoubtedly have some good news up his sleeve, possibly including the go-ahead for a new gold mine in the US where its exploration company has already achieved a

from Entrad, the Australian group. In the past few weeks

goods and help inject new life into the rest of the sector. Earlier this year the market

chant bank, advanced 8
afresh to 324p. Dealers ar

Geoffrey Foster

prompting the rise in the shares from about the 96p level.

Cazenove, the broker, is reported to have been an aggressive buyer and the market expects an announcement or even a dawn raid on Tootal soon.

DMC, the French group, was being tipped as the most likely predator, but rival textile groups, Courtaulds and Coats Viyella and even Coloroll, have all been mentioned as possible bidders.

Meanwhile, Marks and Spencer moved up 2p to 172.5p in anticipation of today's interim figures.

Dealers are hoping that M&S will come up with the goods and help inject new life into the rest of the sector.

The County NatWestWoodMac retail team, which has been scathing in its criticism of the store leaders, pitching its estimate at the low figure of £185 million.


BPB Industries, Britain's only domestic manufacturer of plasterboard, which has been overshadowed recently by European competition worries, jumped 11p to 279 after 281p, amid revived talk of over speculation.

Good buying of the shares was accompanied by vague talk that RTZ, long expected to make a big acquisition of the building materials sector, is running the slide rule over the company.

Earlier this year the market

...and the

... ..



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Starting salary: not less than £10,076

(Ref. 2582/T)

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MEDIA & MARKETING

The new news
is no news

OPINION

Martin Cropper

You've tinted your hair - no, don't tell me, you've cleaned the windows. Nothing is so readily assimilable as a familiar format re-worked. In a week's time the revamped rethunk of BBC1's *Nine O'Clock News* will seem just another gear-change.

The idea that the relaying of news can be susceptible to aesthetic standards is moot. Its actual brief combines the negative virtue of not missing stories which the opposition will run with that of not libelling anyone in a position to sue. If the programme's new format is in any sense "better" than the old, why was this not good enough?

One answer is that it was indeed good enough for its audience but not for its makers' bosses, who increasingly look over one shoulder at the government and over the other at the megabucks of ITN. Just as the big wheels who "manage" British Rail clutch at the straps of cosmetic design and self-advertisement, so the BBC wallows in self-justification and buzzwords. Mr Birt's own "mission to explain" may or may not come into this.

A fair whack of the budget for the new, so-called *Nine O'Clock News* has gone on computer graphics from the same hand as Channel 4's lovable reintegrating kiddy-coloured digit. Out go boring old golden asterisks whizzing round the globe to resemble as the title in comes scintillating deco-lighting courtesy of RKO. The candidly said has made way for the coarsely designed; either way, you still get the tacit boast of universality and contemporaneity.

Where the design takes a mighty prfall is in the captions for Audre's galaxy of correspondents, which are distinguished from those for the talking heads (aka real people) only by the fact that the former ripple into place while the latter fade up.

Monday night's opening story, in which Kenneth Clarke obliged with his celebrated impersonation of a pinstripe pudding, had the minister waddling towards the camera through the legend "John Harrison, Chief Political Correspondent". It's irrefutable that these two gentlemen are both of sufficient importance in the global scale of things to warrant equal billing, but the function of a caption is to identify the visual, not the voice-over.

Three years after introducing the two-presenter newscast, *Nine O'Clock* is back with one. Martyn Lewis *solo* is thus spared the comedy of making unheard smalltalk with his co-reader while the studio lights dim; on the other hand he will find himself hard pressed to sit on gay-rights protesters out of shot and simultaneously continue parroting the autone.

Shoehorned into 27 minutes, 12 stories of vastly differing lengths appeared either as sound bites from a documentary trailer or as under-edited video-letters from international penfriends hanging on about their hobbies.

The assumption that the rest of us are as interested in specific issues as the experts are is the newsman's albatross. More news is not better news. There is already too much of it, and its selection is by no means always determined by world events.

One thinks back fondly to the millennial week when the late lamented Reginald Bosanquet took to the wagon and an extra two minutes' worth of material had to be shovelled in nightly to fuel his newly sprung tongue.

The real breakthrough will come only when a newscaster breaks off to announce "No, a lot happened today. Meanwhile, here is a potter's wheel."

The author is a freelance writer.

Is it green for stop?

Andrew Lycett
considers the threat
posed to 'green'
television from
satellite
broadcasting

An outspoken senior ITV executive at last year's meeting of the One World Broadcasting Trust (OWBT) was heard to rant: "We'd love to take more of your programmes, if they weren't so bloody boring." The trust's objective is simple - it was set up in 1987 on the initiative of Chris Rowley, the IBA's head of planning, to encourage British television to take Third World development issues more seriously. Each year its members meet for a day to discuss this objective and to present awards for the best film on environment and development.

British film-makers, already pre-empted in this field, hope that Margaret Thatcher's espousal of the ecological cause will boost their business. They are worried that the advent of satellite television will affect the number of outlets for "green" programmes. That is why this month's annual meeting of the trust will be addressed by such heavyweights as Michael Grade, chief executive at Channel 4, Will Wyatt, the BBC's head of documentary features, and Stewart Purvis, deputy editor of ITN.

The film-maker Anthony Isaacs, best known for his work at Granada on the award-winning series *Disappearing World*, is pessimistic. He is now director of the International Broadcasting Trust, an educational charity and independent television production company, which produced the major seven-part series *Battle for the Planet* for Channel 4. "By nature, development programmes tend to be overseas and expensive. You can't do one for much less than £100,000. It seems satellite channels will not want to spend that amount of money. Also, ITV and Channel 4 may have to move away from this type of educational programme in order to compete."

BBC and ITV have seen it as part of their mandate to tackle development and environment issues. Central Television has followed where Sir Lew Grade's ATV left off in making this



In the case: the poster for the Central/TVE programme *The Acid Test*

type of programming an important selling point. Inspired by the success of its 1984 series *Decade of Destruction*, directed by Adrian Cowell, which dealt with the destruction of Brazilian rain forests, Central established the Environment (TVE) in 1984 to act as a catalyst for development film-making. Insiders suggest there was an element of franchise conservatism in this - Central was showing the IBA it could do with development what Anglia does with disappearing species through *Survival*.

The advent of TVE came with the flowering of Channel 4. Soon dozens

of British documentary teams were travelling the globe making features structured by TVE, financed by Central and others, and shown, if not on Central, on Channel 4. Richard Cressy, Central's head of features, is widely credited as a moving force in the development of untapped film-making talent. Recent influential films have been *Banking on Disaster* and *Living after the Famine*, in both of which Central's stable of independent directors returned to former stamping grounds - Brazil and Ethiopia - to chart development.

There was one major problem. Though the films were well received,

television companies, including the BBC, did not see development features as great money-spinners. They were left out of the *EastEnders*-dominated package when BBC Enterprises salesmen visited Kenya or Bangladesh. So, in 1987, TVE, with backing from the United Nations Environment Programme and the Panos Institute, spawned Moving Pictures. If TVE now provides seed money to a development film project, Moving Pictures automatically acquires the Third World rights. Television stations in developing countries can show the films free.

Another problem was the didactic nature of the average development film. This is acknowledged by Richard Keefe, a former teacher who heads North-South Productions, which made the £2 million *Only One Earth* series for the BBC.

One of his latest films - inevitably for Central TV - is *Yanomama*, based on a musical about the Amazon rain forests and performed by Lancashire schoolchildren and written by two of their teachers. To give the film added entertainment value it has an introduction by the rock singer Sting.

"We're attempting to break the lecturing doom and gloom mood," Keefe says. "We are finding new ways of putting across the message of environment and development."

Another of his films, about the southern spread of the Sahara, features African musicians.

Will this be enough to attract the satellite programmers? Marino di Medici, head of communications for the United Nations' International Fund for Agricultural Development, thinks so. He believes satellite channels with time to fill will be "hungry" for this type of material. WTN, the world-wide TV agency linked to ITN, already produces a bi-weekly environment and development news feature service, which is taken by Sky Channel. And on the horizon is a well-kept secret, the European Space Agency's Olympus satellite, due to be launched next May. Olympus's footprint covers not only the whole of Europe, but also North Africa and the Eastern seaboard of North America. An ESA spokesman promised this week that subject matter will be anything from AIDS to live medical operations, and will definitely include development topics.

Central TV certainly thinks there is a market - it recently renewed its original four-year agreement to fund TVE.

Goliath
backs
David

An agency that
started over a
strip club wins
the 3i account

The venture capital giant 3i this week took a deep breath and sacked its advertising agency of 20 years, American-owned D.D.B. Needham, to move its £2.5 million account to Howell Henry Chalcote Lury.

Howell Henry has been open for business little more than a year, but it is the kind of company 3i would have invested in at the start - given the chance. With two management partners aged just over 30, and a creative team who were responsible for Carling Black Label and Holsten Pils at their previous agencies, they set up above a strip club in Dean Street, Soho, with no clients. Since then they have secured business worth £15 million.

"They are young, entrepreneurial and take risks. They fit our culture exactly and should keep us on our toes," says 3i's marketing director, Christopher Woodward.

3i's advertising through D.D.B. Needham involved stylish Thirties-influenced graphics. "But our research showed the style and design was overwhelming the message," Woodward says. In its corporate and product advertising for 3i, which should start in the New Year, Howell Henry will use a "more direct style" to promote growth capital, management buy-out and management buy-in schemes as well as the traditional start-up capital.

The assignment is infinitely more valuable than the 15 per cent commission the agency will earn. Howell says: "The prestige of being appointed ahead of far bigger agencies by the world's biggest venture capital company is immense."

Lisa O'Kelly

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MEDIA & MARKETING

Antoine rocks TV

The French charmer who is conquering European television. Carol Sarler reports

Very rarely a new face appears on our television screens that looks born to have been there. It happened with Jools Holland and Jonathan Ross — and it happened two weeks ago, courtesy of *entente cordiale* and the BBC.

Night owls around the country, still tuned in at around midnight on Thursday, found themselves suddenly assaulted by a young man of distinctly Gallic charm who belts out words in a French accent so strong that half of his roller-coaster verbalism are totally incomprehensible.

He is Antoine de Caunes and the programme is *Rapido*, a French "rock and style" show that has had enormous impact in Europe and is now testing the British waters. The channel crossing came about because Janet Street-Porter, carrying her BBC mandate for British youth, went to France to see a Prince concert, saw *Rapido*, brought home a copy to show to Jonathan

Powell (Controller of BBC1) — and between them they seized the chance to try a run of five.

A courageous decision, when you think about it. For a start, the Brits are not noted for a love of things French that aren't clothes or food. And when it comes to rock music, it is hard to imagine that a country that still has John-ee-tal-ley-day on its juke boxes could have much to offer us.

But then, 1992 is just around the corner — and if *Rapido* makes the cult impact many believe it will, it could be just the first of many such enterprises. Producer Tim Newman (born in England, raised in France) has his eye firmly on the European future: "Television producers need sponsors and the great thing about 1992 is that the market will open for international advertising — Coke, jeans and so on will have central budgets — and sport and rock music are the easiest products for that kind of centralization."

That it looks set to succeed is firstly because it offers something



Gallic invader Antoine de Caunes: "I just have so many things to say"

that really is new to television and secondly because of the delightfully overpowering personality of de Caunes. The programme offers a heady mixture of immediacy and Big Names.

After a year on air in France, the team has built up a network of reporters around the world which means their coverage is not tied to the promotions system of waiting until someone is in Paris for a new

release or a concert. On Monday mornings they meet, de Caunes says what he wants — be it from Tokyo or Los Angeles — tapes are made, flown in and edited. De Caunes records his presentation and links, and the results are on air in France, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium and now Britain.

The Big Names play ball because of de Caunes's persistent close links with the music business for the last

10 years. If he wants Paul McCartney, David Bowie or Tom Waits, he gets them — often where other fail. With these kind of contributors to *Rapido*, the viewers are likely, one feels, to come from the huge adult audience brought up on rock music. De Caunes is 35 himself, and "in the end it's my own evolution. I like to think you don't have to be a specialist in music to enjoy it, but if you are you will also get something from it."

It is a conscious decision, too, to combine the rock with film, trends and other matters of news and style — "and not to separate it from what's around". Overwhelmingly, however, the content of the show deals with acts British and American; acts that operate in the English language. Something that produces not a patriotic twinge in the de Caunes heart: "That's where the most important music comes from; you can complain about it but you can't argue."

As well as recording two versions of a week of *Rapido*, de Caunes also hosts a nightly talk-and-sketch show that recently won him the 7 d'or award — the French equivalent of the Emmy — as Entertainment Host of the Year, an award that put well out of joint the noses of the more established French television stars. If the BBC stands by him and extends its commitment beyond the initial five weeks, it would come as no surprise to see the same kind of accolade here. He's probably not to every taste, but he's not easily ignored.

And as for the impetuous gabbler, he says: "I once had a show that was 60 minutes long and now I have only 30 minutes. So I say the same things but quicker. I just have so many things to say."

● *Rapido* is on BBC1 for the next three weeks at 11.55pm on Thursdays.

BYLINES

Out of business

Thames Television is backing down from being a major shareholder in the European Business Channel. The managing director of Thames, Richard Dunn, who is also a director of EBC, offered his resignation from the board but was turned down. "EBC is the kind of venture we are interested in supporting but we have decided not to go the whole hog and become a principal investor," Dunn says.

Dunn had only attended one board meeting since the company was set up, although he was heavily involved in the initial stages. "This is not a lack of confidence on behalf of Thames," he says, "but the channel will inevitably lose money to start with and I have other things to do with Thames's money. Thames is not withdrawing its investment from the channel but as more and more money is required our shareholding will dilute."

Whose money?

Two young film-makers poised to exploit deregulation are celebrating their film debut tonight on BBC2. Mark Rogers and George Tiffin, aged 26 and 24 respectively, set up Stockwell Films last year from Rogers's rented bedroom in South London. They sold *The Last Vacation*, a film about the decline of an American seaside resort, within a month of its completion. The pair, who directed and photographed the 45 minute documentary, travelled *Who's Who* for backers. "We wrote to about 400 people, including every member of the Cabinet, to see if anyone would be interested," says Rogers, who for two years was a researcher for the BBC. Sadly, he adds, "the Beeb pay so little we don't expect to make any money."

odical, *Men Only*, and the highest selling magazine in France — *Club pour Hommes*.

War of words

Two journalists are fighting it out for a place on Southwark council in a forthcoming by-election. Heather Kirby, a freelance writer and former wife of the editorial director of Mail Newspapers, Louis Kirby, is standing as a Conservative candidate against the former Northern Ireland high jump champion and freelance sports writer Kate Hoey. The odds are that Kate will win the place in the Labour controlled council. It would be some compensation for the fact that she only just missed a seat in Parliament at the last general election by 180 votes — the smallest majority in the country.

Briefing...

The un-named Sunday newspaper planned by the Sunday Newspaper Corporation has appointed former executive director of the *Daily Mail*, Peter Chadwick, as general manager. The Corporation expects to be able to announce the title of the new Sunday next week... The London Evening papers NUJ branch is hosting a benefit night for Beirut hostage John McCarthy tomorrow. The Friends of John McCarthy, who are keeping the World Television News journalist's memory alive, hope to raise £1,000. Funds are needed to pay for appeals for his release on Syrian radio... In between composing heart-rending prose on the plight of the trapped whales in Alaska journalists were dining out on whalemeat...

Jane Slade

Keeping a finger on the doctors' pulse

Seeing eye-to-eye across 165 years, Dr Ian Munro, who this week retires as editor of *The Lancet*, feels he has much in common with Dr Thomas Wakely, its founder.

The first issue of *The Lancet*, published on October 5, 1823, carried reports of hospital lectures by eminent surgeons and physicians. It also promised to publish "a correct description of all the important cases that may occur, whether in England or any part of the civilized Continent".

Munro has spent 36 years on *The Lancet* helping to fulfil

Wakely's pledge, while extending the journal's horizons. Two thirds of its 43,000 subscribers live overseas and it receives annually more than 4,000 papers on medical research from all over the world. Only one in eight is deemed worthy of a place in its columns.

Munro has been editor for the last 12 years, during which time he has had first sight of some of the biggest advances in medicine, from the development of anti-cancer drugs and antibiotics to progress in heart transplantation, "test-tube baby" techniques, and

the fight against Aids.

Some of Munro's strongest editorials in recent years have attacked inequalities of health between rich and poor, while defending the virtues of the National Health Service. "I'd like to think that Dr Wakely would have approved. He was a radical, and we have both tried to draw attention to social injustices in health," he says.

Munro, aged 60, will be succeeded by Professor Gordon Reeves, a leading immunologist, of Nottingham University.

Thomson Prentice



A second opinion on *The Lancet*: Dr Ian Munro with a bust of Thomas Wakely, its founder

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c£9,500

NUMERATE GRADUATES

are required by our clients, one of Britain's leading Fashion Groups, to train for a career in merchandising. You need to be under 25, with a genuine desire for a future in the Fashion industry, some work experience in a fashion or figures orientated environment is helpful, but not essential. Assistant Merchandiser positions also available.

For further details please phone:

PREMIER CREW PERSONNEL

01-493 4053

Edward Arnold

THE EDUCATIONAL, ACADEMIC AND MEDICAL PUBLISHING DIVISION OF HODDER & STOUGHTON

Desk Editor

Science graduate with at least 1 year's editorial experience in STM publishing.

The job will involve seeing books through all stages of production from editing of original manuscript to bound copies, liaison with authors and with in-house commissioning editors, design, promotion and production departments.

Candidates should have a meticulous eye for detail, be able to work with the minimum of supervision and keep to schedules.

This job is based in our London offices.

Please write enclosing a full CV and quoting current salary to:

Mrs Joan Mallett, Personnel Manager,

Hodder & Stoughton Limited,

Mill Road, Dunton Green, Sevenoaks, Kent. TN13 2YA.



needs

CHIEF PRESS OFFICER

to deputise for Department Head and join small hard-working team promoting Sky's multi-channel satellite TV services. Ideal applicant will be a professional in their late 20's to late 30's with a proven track record in this field. Excellent communication and organisational skills required plus ability to think strategically and creatively to develop effective PR campaigns.

Applicants must be able to relocate from Sky's W1 offices to Osterley TV centre at the end of '88. Write with full CV and current salary to: Fiona Waters, Director of Press & Publicity, Sky Television, 31-36 Foley Street, London W1P 7LB.

SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

BATHROOM SPECIALIST, Fulham and Oxford.

We have a challenging opportunity for someone with imagination, energy and a proven track record to handle all aspects of sales and marketing of our planned 1989 expansion programme. We are a small top-end bathroom specialist retailer based London/Oxford. This new post offers incredible potential for the right person, reporting to Managing Director.

Package on £14,000.

For full details please send CV to:

James Williams

Sitting Pretty Ltd

PO Box 7

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ARE YOU OUR MAN?

We sell the finest properties at top locations in the French Alps. If you have top selling skills and do not mind working evenings, weekends and the odd trip abroad a couple of weeks a year, are highly motivated and capable of working independently.

Then you could be our man. You will be able to determine your own income and will receive full backup from our U.K. Office.

Please write with full CV to:

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CREATIVE, MEDIA & MARKETING APPOINTMENTS

EUROSPORT

Eurosport (jointly owned by a Consortium of EBU members and News International), will provide Britain and Europe with a dynamic 18 hour a day transmission of top quality sport - direct from the Astra Satellite, commencing early 1989.

The emphasis will be live, and we're looking for a team of proven professionals who have the dedication, skills and enthusiasm to take sports television into a new era.

We need:

COMMENTATORS
SENIOR PRODUCERS
ASSISTANT PRODUCERS
DIRECTORS
TAPE EDITORS

If you feel you have the background, and the drive, and the interest,
we want to hear from you.
Rush your CV and showreel to:

Head of Sport
Eurosport
C/O Sky Television plc
31-36 Foley Street
London W1P 7LB.

Haymarket Publications Limited

JOURNALIST FOR SPECIAL PROMOTIONS

The weekly medical newspaper General Practitioner needs a journalist with exceptional flair to handle all the paper's promotional activities. These range from detailed booklets on medical topics to competitions and mailing shots.

We are looking for someone literate, imaginative, with an understanding of the commercial side of publishing, and with the ability to work alone in taking projects to completion.

A biological degree, a knowledge of general practice, experience in medical publishing or in promotion work - any of these would be valuable. Most of all, though, you must be very bright and self-confident.

Write fully to
Marion Downey, Publisher,
Medical Publications Limited,
30 Lancaster Gate, London W2 3LP.

SALES DIRECTOR (DESIGNATE)

required by National Publishing Co for their Head Office in Poole, Dorset. The ideal candidate will be between 30 and 40 and have substantial experience and a proven track record in advertising sales.

Salary £23,000 + Company Car and all usual benefits.

Write enclosing CV, or telephone in first instance to:

Managing Director
Castle Publications
53 Willis Way
POOLE, Dorset BH15 3TE
Tel: (0202) 665792.

Marketing Executive

Marketing Director needs a dynamic, enthusiastic and committed self-starter to help establish a new company in the City. If you are bright, articulate and have some commercial experience, call Marcus Dixon on 01-4913 0713 for details.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

Editorial High Flyer

Findlay Publications, acknowledged leader in the field of industrial publishing, is looking for an outstanding communicator to join its team of editors.

You will probably be in your late twenties or early thirties, with an established reputation in business/industrial journalism and determined to improve your career prospects. You will also enjoy the challenge of working with talented, enthusiastic and demanding professionals who, as a matter of course, set themselves high personal standards. An affinity for technology plus outstanding subbing skills will be advantages.

The company publishes six successful and highly respected journals including: Eureka, the journal of innovative engineering design; Works Management, best read by far among the managers in day-to-day control of UK factories; and Machinery, the leading journal for production engineers. These three are complemented by the recent acquisition of New Electronics. In addition, we publish two bi-monthlies: Engineering Computers and Manufacturing Systems.

The company is privately owned generating over £12 million annually from 150 employees. Working conditions are exceptional. Our head office is an Elizabethan manor house in its own estate. For those who put quality first in all their work and who are happy to commit themselves wholeheartedly to their journal and the company, career prospects are excellent.

The salary package, including a car if desired, will be generous and will include excellent fringe benefits.



Applications should include a full CV and be addressed to Chris Edwards, Editorial Director, Findlay Publications, Horton Kirby, Kent DA4 9LL. Telephone 0322-777155.

THE TIMES

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IN THE TIMES
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APPOINTMENTS
SECTION

Telephone

01 481 4481

Where our sales team will be happy to advise you.

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AND
GOUGH

A Showcase for Contemporary Craftsmanship
Require enthusiastic, well presented Manager, experienced in marketing and sales, for a new interiors Gallery Shop. Knowledge of contemporary crafts essential. Please send applications with CV to:

Wilson and Gough
106 Deycott Ave
London SW3.

EDITORIAL

Journalist with 3 to 5 years experience required for leading drinks industry trade publication. Duties include writing and reporting.

Salary is negotiable.

Please send Curriculum Vitae in confidence to BOX 001.

ABETA INTERIORS LIMITED, BATTERSEA

URGENTLY NEED

INTERIOR DESIGNER TO WORK ON INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

With 3/5 years experience and proven ability in upmarket domestic and hotel projects to join a friendly design team. The successful candidate must be capable of producing speedy schemes and budgets. Good product knowledge would be invaluable.

INTERIOR ARCHITECT

The successful candidate will be responsible for the management and organisation of all projects. Proven organisational skills in programming will be an advantage.

Salaries negotiable according to ability. For interview please ring Mrs. Ireland on 01-228 2221.

SALES AND MARKETING DIRECTOR

California Company seeking a V.P. Sales/Marketing Director to cover UK. 10 years experience in travel and airline industry. Product is unattended self service airline ticket machines. High growth potential. Please telephone 01 584 2251 between 7 am to 9am or evenings.

MARKETING/SALES EXECUTIVE

required. Marketing and distributing Turkish handkerchiefs and carpets for a newly established, fast expanding company. Some experience needed.

Contact
371 1416/7/8/9.

POLYLINA

Product Manager North London



Poly-Lina is the leading UK manufacturer of polythene household products, with a range that includes Trimesh Bin Liners, Bunny Bags, Food and Freezer Bags and Cling Film. Our reputation and position as market leader has been built upon a very active new product development programme, together with an on-going commitment to 'own label' supply to the UK's major grocery and chemist retailers.

To strengthen our Marketing Department we are seeking a dynamic Product Manager, who will take responsibility for a range of both 'own label' and branded products. You will be working in a young, busy department and your role will cover pack design, new product development, pricing policy and marketing.

Ideally educated to degree standard or holding a professional marketing qualification you should be numerate and have the ability to work simultaneously on a variety of projects, identify priorities and meet deadlines.

In return, we offer a competitive salary, plus company car, private pension and annual bonus schemes, together with excellent prospects for career development.

Please write, enclosing an up-to-date CV including your present salary, to Mrs. M. Jenkins, Poly-Lina Ltd., Millmarsh Lane, Brimsdown, Enfield, Middx EN3 7PU.

SALES AND MARKETING

KEY ROLES WITHIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The National Computing Centre leads the drive for the effective use of IT, both in the UK and abroad. Trading at over £17m and with our membership base growing significantly, we are experiencing increased demand for our comprehensive range of products and services, including software, training and consultancy.

Effective marketing and sales form the key to success in these highly competitive markets and the foundation of our long-term business plans. Increased demand and internal promotion create the following opportunities.

REGIONAL SALES EXECUTIVES LONDON/S. EAST

The National Computer Index is a comprehensive file of computer and IT users throughout the UK and Ireland and is used by both NCC and Government to gauge trends in the UK computing scene and extensively by the industry as a marketing tool.

The first position requires you to sell a variety of products based on the NCI to marketing/other directors and executives in the industry across the country, but with particular emphasis on the South East.

The second position involves promoting and retaining NCC membership and selling our comprehensive range of products and services, including Software Products, Training Services and Consultancy, to commercial and industrial customers and local government in the South East region.

In each case, you must have a broad based knowledge of major hardware and software systems, experience in the sales and/or support of computer services and a willingness to travel.

A comprehensive rewards package is offered: a high basic salary ranging up to £19,500 per annum (reviewed twice yearly), plus London allowance of £1,750 per annum, attractive bonus scheme, car, index-linked pension and life assurance schemes and 27 days holiday.

SALES TRAINEES LONDON/BRISTOL/BIRMINGHAM

This could be your first step into IT sales. As a Customer Services Officer, you will work closely with our sales staff and customers, gaining invaluable first hand experience and formal training in all the company's sales activities. After 12 to 18 months in this fast moving environment you should be ready for promotion to Regional Officer, responsible for your own sales territory and targets, with a remuneration package to match.

We are looking for ambitious and personable individuals aged 24-35, who have a sound computing knowledge and exposure to IT sales or customer support activities. You will need excellent communication skills, the ability to work effectively on your own initiative and a clean driving licence for the UK travel involved.

We offer an excellent starting salary in a range currently rising to £14,300 per annum (reviewed twice yearly), London allowance where appropriate, index linked pension and life assurance schemes, relocation assistance as appropriate and 25 days holiday.

The National Computing Centre has an impressive record of working at the forefront of information technology, directing technical programmes and developing products and services to encourage the more effective use of IT throughout the UK and overseas.

MARKETING EXECUTIVE MANCHESTER

A challenging opportunity has arisen for an experienced marketing professional to join our Marketing Support team. You will promote our products, services and facilities which include Software, Training, Publications, Membership and Specialised Consultancy. Reporting to the Product Marketing Manager, you will be responsible for the creation, execution and monitoring of marketing communication plans and be expected to contribute to business strategy and market analysis.

You should have a proven track record over 3-4 years in a marketing environment. Product and communication marketing experience in the IT industry would be advantageous.

An attractive starting salary is offered, based on experience, within a range rising to £19,500 per annum (reviewed twice yearly). Conditions of service are excellent and include 27 days holiday, index-linked pension and life assurance schemes and relocation where appropriate.

MARKET RESEARCH/ INFORMATION ANALYST MANCHESTER

Are you ready to take responsibility for all aspects of a market research project? Your brief will include proposal writing, survey and questionnaire design, sampling, data coding and computer analysis.

We seek previous qualitative/quantitative research experience, particularly in survey design analysis and report writing. Ideally in the IT market place. Good "user" skills and MS-DOS based micros are important. Knowledge of packages (word-processing, spreadsheets and statistical analysis, particularly SPSS) is extremely useful.

We will reward your experience within a range currently rising to £14,300 per annum (reviewed twice yearly), plus index-linked pension and life assurance schemes, 25 days holiday and relocation as appropriate.

If you have the confidence, enthusiasm and ability to develop in the world of IT, please write with full career details to: Trish Boag, (Mrs.) Personnel Officer, The National Computing Centre Limited, Oxford Road, Manchester M1 7ED.

Please quote T 2/1/88 and indicate the vacancy for which you are applying.



NCC THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

design consultancy

PR MANAGER

PACKAGE £20 - £25K

We are one of the top ten design consultancies.

If you are 25 - 32, a proven professional from a consultancy background and would enjoy the challenge of building on the success of a single client, write us your achievements and tell us why we should appoint you.

THE CHAIRMAN
THE JENKINS GROUP 8 TUSTON STREET
WESTMINSTER LONDON SW1P 3GS

j THE JENKINS GROUP

ADVERTISING SALES

I am looking for a young, talented, person to develop advertising sales within COMMS MONTHLY, the leading magazine for the telecommunications and datacomms sectors.

Candidates will ideally be in their twenties, with two years or more experience of media sales. The successful applicant will be involved in tele-sales (recruitment) and some face-to-face selling to both advertising agencies and direct clients.

The position is demanding but rewarding, with a good salary and pleasant working conditions.

Please phone, or write with CV, to Richard Fleming-Yates, Advertisement Manager, COMMS MONTHLY, The Clock House, 4a The Square, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1DZ. Tel: 01-948 6966.

01-481-4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

RICH REWARDS

Do you sometimes feel the skills you worked so hard to achieve have not brought you the rewards you deserve? Secretaries with good shorthand are now at a premium and at Finesse, many of our clients are currently paying top salaries for top skills!

PERSONNEL

Personnel and recruitment are areas which offer above average prospects for career progression. As secretary to the Recruitment Manager at this highly successful Investment Bank, your excellent secretarial skills will leave you time to develop your own areas of responsibility as you discuss staffing requirements with department heads, greet and test applicants and deal with extensive personnel administration. Skills 80/50.

Specialists for the 18-25 year olds

FINESSE APPOINTMENTS
01-499 3531/3551

£15,000

This energetic Board Director is responsible for co-ordinating an exciting new expansion plan to push this successful company into new markets. He needs a PA with excellent secretarial skills coupled with diplomacy and poise - establishing a rapport with new clients, co-ordinating promotional activities and anticipating the Directors' decisions in his absence make this a challenging position with lots of scope for initiative. Skills 100/50.

STOCKBROKING £15,500

This highly prestigious firm of stockbrokers is looking for an executive secretary with superb communication skills and organisational talents.

Working on the administrative side of the company you will find yourself liaising between departments and offices, dealing with day to day queries and long term projects whilst keeping calm and professional throughout.

Attending meetings with your boss and composing your own correspondence are daily activities within this busy and exciting role.

Skills: 100/60 Age: 24-30

City Office: 725 8451

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Sue Hodge

STRONG AND TRENDY? £12,000 +

Big deal chairman of a graphic design company who can be volatile will appreciate a strong person to give this genuine one-to-one assistance. Some personnel involved but communication at the top level is called for. Designer-trendy surroundings in the West End. Very interesting. Phone 434 0030

Rec Cons
Raffles Buildings
215-217 Oxford Street, London W1R 1AH

COUNTDOWN 1992

Can you speak to Europe in its own language?

GERMAN & ITALIAN fluent in one. PA. 2 Directors. Corporate Finance. City. S/H & WP. Age 20-30. £13,500 + superb banking benefits from start. Prospects.

ITALIAN Useful. PA. Divisional Manager. High-Tech Corporate Sales. City. WP. Mature Attitude. £12,000.

EUROPEAN LANGS. Useful. PA/SEC. Gen. Manager Sales. Leisure Co. Hammermith. S/H useful not essential. WP + Strong organisational skills. £12,000.

ITALIAN fluent. English mother-tongue standard. Sec. 2 Analysts. Banking. West End. S/H and WP. Early 20s. £11,000 + superb banking benefits.

FRENCH good. College Leaver. Admin. Manager. Radio Communications W12. S/H useful - not essential. Ambitious. Career minded. Full training given. £8,500 + benefits. Great Start!

Temping With Languages Too!

International Secretaries

01-491 7100

DIRECTORS' SECRETARY/PA

A group of experienced and well-known Directors are setting up a new Holding Co in Mayfair. They seek a capable, personable Secretary to assist during the setting up operation with a view to progressing to being a key co-ordinating secretary/PA. Must be skilled in shorthand, audio and W.P. and be smart, cheerful, well spoken and able to use initiative.

Come and grow with this ambitious team. Salary £13,000 Age 23+

Please telephone ref: BAA/DRA 01 491 3611 NO AGENCIES

OSBORNE & LITTLE plc

PA/Secretary to the Sales Director.

An interesting job for the right person, working in a busy sales environment. Must be efficient, well-organised, have W.P. experience and a bright personality. Languages an advantage. Age 25-35

Please write with C.V. to the Sales Director Osborne & Little plc, 49 Temperley Road, London SW12 8QE

YACHTING AND SPORTS EVENTS £14,000 + benefits

Organise social events on luxury yachts, co-ordinate social sporting events for important clients and become PA to the chairman of one of the world's most successful international companies situated in beautiful surroundings. This fantastic unusual position can be yours. Call 434 0030 now.

Rec Cons
Raffles Buildings
215-217 Oxford Street, London W1R 1AH

PARTNERS SECRETARY TOP SALARY

We are a friendly and dynamic medium sized practice close to Holborn Tube. One of our commercial property Partners requires a top class Secretary with excellent skills and who is capable of working on own initiative and under pressure. Legal experience would be an advantage, but is not essential.

We offer bi-annual reviews, Christmas bonus, and season ticket loan after qualifying period.

Salary neg.

PLEASE WRITE WITH FULL C.V. TO:

MARION HUGHES
8/9 LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS,
LONDON, WC2A 3DW
OR TELEPHONE ON
01-242 3399
FOR AN INTERVIEW.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES P.R. - £14,000

The ability to promote a company's image is a key factor in modern business - hence the importance of public relations companies.

The Managing Director of a leading PR firm who, in addition to running the day to day operations, has special responsibility for new business, needs a Secretary/PA. Of course there is routine work but there is also scope for research, marketing and client contact.

Age about 25 Skills: 100/60

01-629 9323

EXHIBITIONS £13,000

Wonderful career opportunity for confident, outgoing PA capable of taking on all levels. Typing must be good although a very small part of the job. 25-30.

01-730 5148

(Rec. Con.)

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CHARTLEIGH

EXECUTIVE CLASS £10,000

Are you looking for a 2nd job that isn't just a step up from making tea to photocopying? High flying team of male executives require a charming and energetic personality to co-ordinate their travel/expense accounts and organise their agendas. Full cross-training given to the successful applicant. Ref: 671.

BOOKWARD BOUND! £10,500

This could be the move you've been looking for, where ideas and creative talent are rewarded. Literature and the Book World. You are secretary to the managing director of this unique publishing house. Variety and stimulation will make this a new chapter in your career. Apply to the MD there is scope for progression within this company for a 2nd job. Ref: 329.

THEATRE FUN £11,000

This prestigious theatre company based south of the river needs an intelligent person to undertake research projects, deal with press releases and become involved in promotional work. Working for the MD there is scope for progression within this company for a 2nd job. Ref: 329.

NEW INVENTION £11,000+

Exciting opportunity to a good sec to progress to PA with own expanding advertising agency. Learn all aspects of the advertising/marketing field while being totally responsible for the smooth running of your office in the director's absence. All you need is good experience, plus an 'irresistible' natural Ref: 329.

LEGAL PROSPECTS £12,000

An international solicitor's firm are interested in seeing you if you have previous legal experience. As the secretary to the City based office are offering a substantial package which includes regular salary reviews plus bonuses on individual work. A clear and distinct secretary to the firm opportunity Ref: 329.

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01-225 1777

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SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

A rare opportunity to join the team of this small, dynamic trading and investments company conveniently based in London's West End.

DIRECTORS SECRETARY/PA

A demanding post attracting commensurate salary (£5 negotiable) + bonus + 4 weeks holiday + possible profit share.

This small professional company, well established in the Trading and Investments sector, provides the opportunity to work within an informal structure. The job is hectic and demanding but lots of fun, so your vital personality and enthusiasm is essential.

Working for two directors, you will need excellent organising and administration skills and be responsible for the smooth running of the office. Client contact, often with foreign businessmen and stockbrokers, is an important aspect of your personal abilities and your telephone manner should be superlative.

Naturally a person of your age (25-35 years) and calibre will have excellent typing, shorthand and audio skills. In addition the company has the latest IBM PS/2 computer with WordPerfect wordprocessing with which you will need to be conversant.

The opportunity is there, through your drive and ambition, for real career development as well as generous financial rewards.

Please write to or call, in the strictest confidence:

Jo Gaudin or Stella Taylor Ahead Ltd., Cinema House,
93/95 Wardour Street, London, W1V 3TE
Tel. 01-494 2409

AHEAD

MLC

45 Minutes with DRAKE PERSONNEL

INTERNATIONAL LIAISON

£12,000
As PA to the Senior Partner in this firm of Quantity Surveyors you will take total charge of running the office. The role offers variety and responsibility; if you are capable and have good audio typing skills and enjoy liaising with people from all over the world you'll love the professional, relaxed atmosphere of these lovely premises. Assisted by a Junior you will spend your days organising meetings, handling diaries and appointments and generally making yourself indispensable.
Call Fiona Haas on 01-734 0911 to find out more.

EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT

£13,500
Step into recruitment as Senior Secretary/Administrator. Your organisation and people skills will be exceptional, and you will feel completely at home dealing with top executives. You will handle frantic deadlines without flapping, and become totally involved in the day to day running of this agency. Your sense of humour, shorthand and audio skills will take you to the top. (Candidates 35 years plus).
Call Pamela Ray on 01-831 8666.

FAR EASTERN TRAVEL

£11,000
A glittering chain of Far Eastern hotels await the young and ambitious among you who have looked in vain for a challenging and rewarding role. Using your shorthand and typing skills you will learn all aspects of the travel and hotel business. This is an opportunity not to be missed.
Call Lynda Magner on 01-734 0911.

ACCOMPLISHED PA

£12,000 +
Do you relish being busy? Are you bored when you're not fully occupied? The directors of this Distribution company would love to meet you! They have a hectic workload and need a PA with great organisational talents and good shorthand/PA to run their office. The role offers lots of scope to become completely involved in all aspects of the business, and your hard work will be well appreciated. This is an excellent opportunity to gain experience at a senior level, if you'd like to know more call Sarah Green on 01-623 1226.

MATURE PA

£14,000
Your experience at senior level, and confidential manner will win warm approval from the General Manager of this large Engineering company. He is looking for someone to work with on a one-to-one basis, handling lots of private matters, as well as liaising with very senior personnel. Your shorthand and WP skills will be well rewarded by a very generous benefits package as well as regular reviews. If you are looking for a perfect boss and beautiful surroundings — look no further, call Kathryn McMahon on 01-734 0911.

Change your life today!

Maine-Tucker

A PIECE OF THE ACTION!

£9,000 + Commission
How about a job with a difference? Where YOU are in with the team and have your own projects to work for? This small, fun and friendly Property Company based in SW19 will be looking for a PA to help with the day to day running of the business. You will be responsible for all aspects of the business, from the office to the client. You must be highly organised, have good shorthand and typing skills, and be able to handle a variety of tasks. If you are looking for a challenging role, call David on 01-875 0548.

50 Pall Mall St James's London SW1W 9LB Telephone: 01-875 0548

Maine-Tucker

INTERNATIONAL TV

£10,000
Are you looking for a really original, interesting job, working with this demanding young director who needs someone incredibly organised to help him under control? Your job has no many facets to it and so much variety including a distinctly international flavour. This company is small, yet rapidly expanding and so work in it you must have a real sense of fun. As well as secret shorthand and fast accurate typing, word processing experience is essential. So if you are looking for something really special, call us without delay.

50 Pall Mall St James's London SW1W 9LB Telephone: 01-875 0548

SECRETARY TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND PERSONNEL MANAGER

Pillar Engineering Limited, part of the International RTZ Corporation PLC, is a diversified industrial holding group with a small, friendly head office based in St James's Square. We require a Senior Secretary for the Chief Executive and Personnel Manager. In addition to the usual secretarial duties, there will be an opportunity to get involved in administrative tasks related to the personnel function. You will probably be aged around 25, educated to 'A' level standard with 3-4 years senior level experience. You must have good shorthand, typing and WP skills (we will cross-train), and the police to be able to liaise at senior level. You will need a flexible approach and must be prepared to work under pressure at times. Large company benefits include free lunch, season ticket loan and profit share. Salary up to £13,000. If you think this could be you, please send your CV to: Margaret Wallace, RTZ Pillar Limited, Cleveland House, 19 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4JG, or ring 01-830 7365.

WITCH WAY NOW?

The only way to turn at Hallowe'en is towards 311 Regent St.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SEC to £14,000
As a PA to the Managing Director of a large, successful, established company you will be responsible for all aspects of the business, from the office to the client. You must be highly organised, have good shorthand and typing skills, and be able to handle a variety of tasks. If you are looking for a challenging role, call David on 01-875 0548.

PALL MALL PA £13,000
With 40/50 years in the business, you will be responsible for all aspects of the business, from the office to the client. You must be highly organised, have good shorthand and typing skills, and be able to handle a variety of tasks. If you are looking for a challenging role, call David on 01-875 0548.

UNOFFICIAL OFFICE MGR £15,500
The successful PA to a senior executive will be responsible for all aspects of the business, from the office to the client. You must be highly organised, have good shorthand and typing skills, and be able to handle a variety of tasks. If you are looking for a challenging role, call David on 01-875 0548.

Office Angels
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR
Kensington — £13,000 p.a.

I'm looking for a PA. that my clients can depend on as much as I most certainly will. Being head of a small executive recruitment consultancy means that I need a good working partnership with someone who is professional, confident, committed to the business, and consistent in performance. Someone who can act in my stead if I am not there. The fundamental skills you should have are WP and Audio experience and good administrative/organisational abilities. Accuracy is more important than speed — and intelligence more important than both. The work is hard but rewarding. If you can make the contribution I'm looking for, you'll definitely be able to grow with our business. For details call Claire Simon now on 01-838 2222 ext 2485 or send your CV direct to her at The Hamilton Irving Consultancy, London House, 26-40 Kensington High Street, London W8 4PF. We look forward to hearing from you.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY to £13,000 + MS

Our client, a major force in US banking, needs a career-minded person who wants total involvement in their job. As a key member of the Training Department, you'll be organising courses and seminars and be using your systematic approach & outgoing personality to the full. 80/80 + WP skills necessary. Age 21+.

RECEPTIONIST c.£11,000

First Impressions count! Which is why this new and very smart bank needs the most presentable receptionist in London. You must also have 1st class English and accurate typing. Age 21-27.

JIGSAW RECRUITMENT

01-631 0902 OXFORD CIRCUS

PUBLISHING - PR - TELEVISION PRODUCTION

As London's leading Consultants specialising in the Arts and Media, we are currently seeking bright young secretaries to work in the above fields. If you have good secretarial skills as well as initiative and enthusiasm and are looking for a challenging job at a progressive salary call us today.

JUDY FISHER ASSOCIATES

01-493 0238 Richmond, Surrey

ARE YOU AMBITIOUS? DO YOU WANT A JOB WITH A FUTURE?

If so, we would be interested in talking to you - We require a bright enthusiastic secretary to join the team in our busy London Office in Chelsea. The successful candidate will be used to working under pressure, handling audio typing and telephone work. As part of an expanding company, there is an excellent opportunity for the right person to progress, becoming involved in property management and moving away from secretarial work in due course. Starting salary: £10,500 p.a. Please apply in writing to: Gillian Bishop, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, Gloucester Avenue, London SW3 2JW. Tel. No. 588 5100.

SPECIALIST INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANCY WEST END/EPSON AREA £13,000

We are a small team of consultants based near Piccadilly but expanding to move to new offices in the Epson area within six months. We are looking for a Senior Secretary with good word processing skills and a pleasant outlook. If you are good at organising yourself and others, enjoy hard work and are looking for a job with interest and variety please write enclosing C.V. to: K M Hudson at 12a Gardner Mansions, Church Lane, London W9 3UR.

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22 Baldwin Street
Bristol BS1 1SE
0272-299998

EDINBURGH
29 Frederick Street
Edinburgh EH2 2ND
031-226 5951

GLASGOW
21 West Nile Street
Glasgow G1 2PS
041-226 5888

CRAWLEY
40 The Boulevard
Crawley RH10 1XP
0293-540521

STRATFORD
72 The Broadway
Stratford E15
01-519 6343

HOLBORN
96 High Holborn
London WC1
01-831 0666

WEMBLEY
11 Park Lane
Wembley
01-903 4901

VICTORIA
150 Victoria Street
London SW1
01-834 0388

WEST END
225 Regent Street
London W1
01-734 0911

KENSINGTON
10 Pembridge Road
London W11
01-221 5072

BOND STREET
72 New Bond Street
London W1
01-355 4878

CROYDON
6 Suffolk House
George Street
Croydon, Surrey
01-688 5698

CITY
Plantation House
31-35 Fenchurch St.
London EC3
01-623 1226

HAMMERSMITH
14 The Broadway
Hammersmith W6
01-846 9787

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1211 Geneva 3-Rive

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Kasernenstrasse 11
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8021 Zurich

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INVESTMENTS LIMITED

PA £10,000 - £12,000

SECRETARY £9,000 - £10,000

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PA £10,000 - £12,000

SECRETARY £9,000 - £10,000

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

PA To Managing Director

Windsor
c £16,000,
Excellent Benefits

Hoggett Bowers

Executive Search and Selection Consultants
BIRMINGHAM, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, CARDIFF, GLASGOW, LEEDS, LONDON, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE, NOTTINGHAM, SHEFFIELD and WINCHESTER
A MEMBER OF BLUE ARROW PLC

This is a true Personal Assistant role to a very dynamic young MD, which offers superb prospects for further career development. As part of its ambitious strategy to increase its customer base and carve out a new-style family market in retail banking, the company recently appointed a new Managing Director. He requires a first class PA to assist him in achieving his objective to triple the size of the business within five years. The role is immensely challenging, requires total commitment and offers full involvement in the MD's activities. Aged mid 20s - early 30s, and of graduate calibre, you must have at least three years experience as a PA. First class organisational and administrative abilities must complement your excellent secretarial skills (though shorthand is not a requirement). You must be highly personable, diplomatic, with a strong personality and, above all, be able to act on your own initiative. Salary will not be a limiting factor for an outstanding candidate. The benefits package is very comprehensive and the working environment of the highest quality.

Male or female candidates should submit in confidence a comprehensive C.V. or telephone for a Personal History Form to, J. Inman, Hoggett Bowers plc, George V Place, 4 Thames Avenue, WINDSOR, SL4 1QP, 0753-850851, quoting Ref: W110707T.

PROPERTY £14,000

A prestigious Property Company will utilise your first class Secretarial skills to the full, as the right hand to a distinguished Executive. Every opportunity will be provided to develop your skills in a stimulating environment. Excellent benefits.

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-408 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7707
HOLBORN: 01-631 4141

STRIKE OIL £14,000

Prestigious City Oil Company need a first class Secretary/PA to assist the Managing Director. You'll manage overseas trips and deal with confidential matters. Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed for a position with excellent career potential!

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-408 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7707
HOLBORN: 01-631 4141

EXEC SEC £13,000

A career minded and highly motivated Secretary is required to work closely with the Managing Director. High administrative and varied duties will ensure job satisfaction and excellent prospects for an individual eager to succeed.

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-408 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7707
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PA PLUS £14,000

An excellent PA position available to assist the M.D. of this thriving Property Company. You'll be organising all aspects of his day, latest and involvement in management with good all round skills. Excellent benefits on offer.

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-408 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7707
HOLBORN: 01-631 4141

NEW CHALLENGE £12,000 + Mot sub

A real challenge to further your career with this leading world renowned company. As part of the Management Co-ordinator and deal with a wide range of administrative duties. Top benefits include Mot sub, LV's, S.T.L's and free life insurance.

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-408 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7707
HOLBORN: 01-631 4141

CAREER MOVE £12,000

A real challenge to further your career with this leading world renowned company. As part of the Management Co-ordinator and deal with a wide range of administrative duties. Top benefits include Mot sub, LV's, S.T.L's and free life insurance.

CITY: 01-481 2345
WEST END: 01-408 2264
VICTORIA: 01-834 7707
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Training for the Future

circa £11,500 - Chiswick

Training Assistant sought to assist in the in-house training programme of a leading Professional concern. As well as helping in the design and production of training material you will co-ordinate workshops and conferences; book venues etc. The flexibility to travel allied to experience gained in a professional training environment is essential. Excellent presentation, commitment, patience and enthusiasm are a must. Sound WP knowledge pre-requisite. Admin skills useful. Creative, effective communicator? Age 20-25? Call 01-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

TOP SECRETARY

£15,000 + + +

The Managing Director of an established financial company based near Victoria needs a new secretary with excellent shorthand skills of at least 120 wpm. This is a busy, stimulating role and for the right person would prove to be a real challenge. The salary will reflect the successful candidate's abilities and past experience.

Please contact Dominique Green on 01-623 1266

LONDON HONG KONG MIDDLE EAST SINGAPORE SYDNEY

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SOLICITORS SECRETARY

Secretary required for partner in medium sized practice in Westminster, in modern offices and a pleasant working environment. The work is an interesting and unusual mix of entertainment, matrimonial and commercial law. Legal experience is not essential. Audio/WP (cross training available).

For further details please telephone Mrs Carol Ellis on 01-222 9070.

No Agencies

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MACHIN SALES SECRETARY

c£12,000

Make a vital contribution to the busy Sales Department of our rapidly expanding company, marketing the most prestigious range of conservatories in the country.

Your varied duties will include confidential secretarial tasks, liaison with clients, and co-ordinating our sales force.

An enthusiastic, flexible, and self-motivated approach is needed, together with first class organisational and secretarial skills.

Age 20+. Very pleasant offices close to Battersea Park.

Send CV, with handwritten letter, to:

The Sales Director, Machin Designs Limited, Ransome's Dock, 35-37 Parkgate Square, LONDON SW11 4NP.

(No agencies please)

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SENIOR SECRETARY

We are a very busy architectural practice with offices near the Angel Islington.

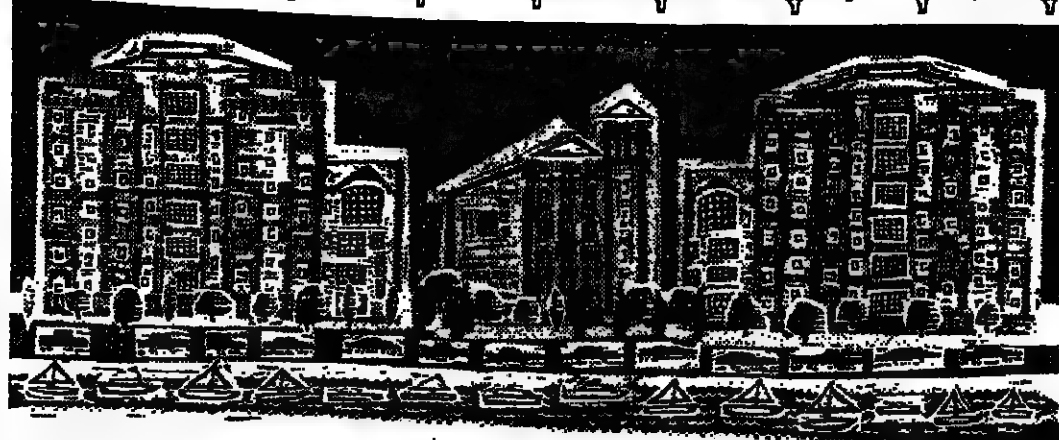
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LONDON PROPERTY



VENICE?

TRAVEL TO WORK BY BOAT?

Yes, but this isn't Venice. This is our new riverside development, Burrell's Wharf, where the Thamesline Riverbus will jet you to Charing Cross in 20 minutes. (The City, of course, is just 15 minutes away by

light railway.) And Burrell's Wharf is just as impressive as the advanced means of travel available to you.

Built originally in Victorian times, Burrell's Wharf offers you much more than just a home with stunning views of Greenwich. It's an environment that's unparalleled in our capital city. A blend of old and new architecture, with an extensive retail arcade, leisure facilities and contemporary apartments to match.

Appointed to a level rarely seen outside design magazines, the one and two bedroom apartments and penthouses in 'The Wheelhouse' building range from £97,995 to £350,000, and share the luxury of a hotel-style foyer, underground parking, high speed lifts and a roof garden. All have a balcony and terrace, some have two, and most have spectacular views of the Thames at its widest and laziest. And with each apartment comes automatic membership of the Island Club.

CANNES? PALM TREES BY THE POOL?

The Island Club, at the heart of Burrell's Wharf, is just one of the highlights of living here. And inside you would be forgiven for thinking you were by the beach on the French Riviera. Shortly to become Europe's foremost health and leisure complex, the Island Club is palm-filled and majestically glazed, containing all the facilities for a healthier, more fulfilled life.

A superb gymnasium packed with the latest equipment overlooks the 20 metre swimming pool. There's an indoor running track, full fitness consultancy, solarium, sauna, steam room, jacuzzi and snooker room, even a library. In addition, there is a fashionable brasserie and bar making 'The Island' the social meeting place par excellence in Docklands.

Dine in style, work out, or simply relax. The Island Club is about far more than fitness - it's about a style of living.

THE ISLAND CLUB® Europe's finest leisure centre.



TORONTO?

WE'LL FLY YOU THERE FOR FREE.

Soon, Canary Wharf close to Burrell's Wharf will rise as majestically as Toronto's 'First Canadian Place', one of the most impressive mixed business complexes in North America.

Canary Wharf is being developed by the far-sighted company, Olympia & York, and will bring 70 acres of commerce and culture to the remarkable renaissance of Docklands. And because Kentish are so confident in Dockland's success we would like to show you what Riverside living is all about. That's why before exchanging contracts at Burrell's Wharf we're offering all prospective purchasers a free visit to Toronto to see Canada's 'Canary Wharf' for themselves. The Wheelhouse apartments are available for a limited period only with a **guaranteed increase in value of 15%, low deposits, and completions in mid 1990.**

Sole Agents.

Alan Selby & Partners 01-986 9431

Office open to 6pm today, 8pm weekdays.

Viewing this Saturday & Sunday 1 to 5pm 262 Westferry Road London E14.

THE WHEELHOUSE

AT BURRELL'S WHARF

From £97,995 - £254,000 + Penthouses

KENTISH
KENTISH PROPERTY GROUP PLCIntroducing Wates
new range of Mews homes
right on Richmond Park!MORTGAGES
HELD AT
10%*

Charm, Character, Convenience. You'll find it all waiting for you at 'The Cleves', our newest development - and one we're particularly proud of.

One and two bedroom flats. Two and three bedroom houses. The choice is excellent - and so is the quality. Built by 'House-builder of the Year' Wates, 'The Cleves' combines the character and charm of a mews style cottage with the comfort and convenience of a spacious modern home.

Each and every home includes its own private garage!

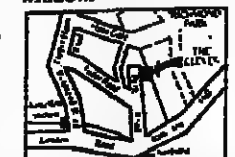
Living alongside the foliage and wildlife of Richmond Park, you are still very centrally located. Kingston and Richmond's excellent shopping facilities are just around the corner. And the centre

of London is only 20 minutes away, via British Rail.

In every home you'll find luxurious pastel coloured fitted kitchens, which include all the essentials of modern living. You'll also be impressed with the standard of heating and double glazing... and the safety precautions, built in to give you peace of mind.

1 bed flats to be released
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2 bed houses from
£153,500
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£173,500.

Make sure you make an early appointment to view our show homes, and experience for yourself the tranquil setting of 'The Cleves' Sales Centre, Park Road, Ham, Surrey TW10 6NS. Tel: 01-547 1643. Show homes open 7 days a week 10am - 5pm. *Contact our sales staff for further details.

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BUILD WITH CARE

CHELSEA & KENSINGTON

CHELSEA Nice bright first floor flat, 2 beds, large reception plan, kitchen, bath, close to all amenities/Kings Rd, £149,000. Tel: 01-581 0282.

CHELSEA SW10 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartment, fully fitted kitchen, 100 year lease, full office facilities, porterage, security. Near Harrods/Kings Rd, £220,000. Tel: 01-581 3395.

CHELSEA SW10 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartment, fully fitted kitchen, 100 year lease, full office facilities, porterage, security. Near Harrods/Kings Rd, £220,000. Tel: 01-581 3395.

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CHELSEA SW3 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartment, fully fitted kitchen, 100 year lease, full office facilities, porterage, security. Near Harrods/Kings Rd, £220,000. Tel: 01-581 3395.

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KENSINGTON W8 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartment, fully fitted kitchen, 100 year lease, full office facilities, porterage, security. Near Harrods/Kings Rd, £220,000. Tel: 01-581 3395.

KENSINGTON W8 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartment, fully fitted kitchen, 100 year lease, full office facilities, porterage, security. Near Harrods/Kings Rd, £220,000. Tel: 01-581 3395.

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KINGS ROAD SW10

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OVERSEAS PROPERTY

Diana Wildman reviews second homes in the sunny south of Portugal

Luxury Algarvian style

Portugal is an attractive proposition for the British second-home buyer, the main reason being that the pound sterling is strong against the escudo and looks set to become even firmer.

The Algarve has a variety of leisure complexes, one of the more exclusive being the 1,700-acre Quinta do Lago estate, near Faro, which has been bought by Roger Abraham and David Thompson, the latter being founder and former chairman of Hillsdown Holdings. Between them, they now have a joint investment of about £25 million in the estate.

Mr Abraham, who is chairman of Quinta do Lago, was a senior partner of Simon & Coates and then managing director of Chase Investment Bank, but he has now moved to Quinta do Lago, where

he and Mr Thompson paid less than £15 million for the 516 building plots and facilities including three golf courses.

The development concept at Quinta is one of low density. Building is allowed to cover only 8 per cent of the land, much of which is pine woods leading to beaches with sand dunes. There are many lakes within the estate around which various developments are under construction, two of them by Bovis.

Lakeside Village comprises about 155 houses and apartments built around a lake, with some shops and a bus stop. Built in traditional Algarvian style, with white-washed walls, wooden-shuttered windows and varying roof levels, the overall impression is that of a long-established residential enclave. There is a

large swimming pool, two tennis courts, restaurants and a bar. Traditional brick, ceramics and stone tiles feature strongly in the interiors.

There are a few two-bedroom apartments for sale, priced £123,000 to £126,000, and a variety of villas, averaging £210,000. There is a show house and owners are entitled to use all the facilities of the estate.

Also within Quinta do Lago, near another, smaller lake, is a new apartment scheme by Bovis, Sao Lourenco. The first units should be ready for occupation early next year.

Eventually, there will be 94 studios, one and two bedrooms, two and three bedrooms apartments, ranging in price from £90,000 to about £190,000 - 23 units are already

reserved. A show flat is open and reservations can be made on payment of a non-refundable £2,500 deposit. There is an option for buyers to become members of the golf club.

Details: Bovis Abroad, 62 Brompton Road, London SW3 1JJ, tel. 01-225 1411.

For people wanting an individually-designed villa, large plots are for sale from about £100,000. For a further £150,000 it is possible to build a four-bedroom villa, with swimming pool. The Quinta do Lago estate office can organize all aspects of the development from drawing plans, obtaining detailed planning permission, construction and decorations.

For holidaymakers keen to establish a foothold within Quinta do Lago, Mr Abraham has established the Quinta do Lago Country Club - 36 luxurious timeshare apartments which stand next to the new Quinta do Lago hotel, managed by the Orient Express Group. The naturally designed apartment block is built in sloping "honeycomb" style and seems to blend into the hillside. Owners can use the hotel facilities.

The apartments are big, expensive and fitted, and future plans include an adjacent leisure club. The timeshare scheme is being run like a hotel, with a round-the-clock receptionist and room service.

Weeks cost from £5,200 to



Holiday idyll: apartments and townhouses at the Four Seasons Country Club near Faro on the Algarve

£7,900, according to size and season. Details: Quinta do Lago, 106/110 Brompton Road, London SW3 1JJ, tel. 01-225 1411.

McInerney, the Dublin-based housebuilder, has firmly established itself within Quinta do Lago, with two timeshare schemes. One, the Four Seasons Country Club, is complete and now Four Seasons Fairways is being built next door. Both schemes are in the heart of estate. Fairways will comprise 150 villas on an 18-acre site and buyers can take a week or blocks of one month, six or eight weeks.

Eight weeks in one of the largest villas will cost from £27,000 to £42,000, depending on the season, and the developers say that purchasers are happy to spend that much, even though it is possible to buy a home outright for £40,000 elsewhere in the Algarve.

McInerney is also selling villas on an outright basis at Fairways from £140,000 to £300,000, according to size and position, and though the service charges are high - about £1,400 a year - owners know that, because of the timeshare element, the management and ongoing maintenance will be good.

A single week at Fairways costs from about £4,200. Details: Four Seasons Resorts, 43 Harwood Road, London SW6 4QP, tel. 01-736 0060.

Just outside the resort of Albufeira, Prowling, the British housebuilder, is now completing the second phase of Balia Village. About 100 units are already built and sold and the next three dozen or so will be available in stages from the beginning of next year. In total contrast to Quinta, Balia is a small project with the terraced houses and apartments clustering

around a swimming pool complex with a clubhouse, restaurant and bar. There are tennis courts and future plans include another swimming pool and bar.

The one, two and three-bedroom homes will range in price from £42,750 and £52,750 to £75,000.

Details: Longcroft Properties, Compton House, Main Road, Easter Compton, Bristol, BS12 2RG, tel. 0454 53351.

In Portugal, 10 per cent SISA (or purchase tax) is due on all properties costing more than 10 million escudos (about £47,000). It is important to get professional and legal advice before committing to purchase. A new guide to buying has been produced by Penningtons, the lawyers, of Phoenix House, 9 London Road, Newbury, Berkshire.

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3247, 3249, 3251, 3

Figures suggest that Gatting's actions on behalf of the England team in Pakistan last winter may well have a solid foundation

Claim for neutral umpires boosted by statistics

By Giles Lyon

Ever since the captain of England, Mike Gatting, shook his finger at Shikoor Rana, the umpire in Pakistan last winter, there has been an ever-louder call for neutral umpires in cricket.

The atmosphere of bad feeling was further heightened during Australia's recent tour of Pakistan, with Allan Border threatening to pull his side out of the series after a number of apparently dubious decisions had contributed to their defeat by an innings and 168 runs in the first Test.

Thankfully, he was persuaded by the Australian Cricket Board to continue with the tour, but this incident emphasized the suspicions harboured by touring teams about the integrity of many "home" umpires.

To point the finger at any one country at any time is unwise and unproductive: umpires react in the heat of the moment and cannot be condemned for isolated decisions or the views of certain individuals.

So, in attempting to put the problem into perspective, I have looked at Test scorecards over the past 20 years and analysed the percentage of leg-before decisions — the most controversial of decisions — given against touring teams and home sides in relation to the total number of wickets taken.

One would assume that the percent-



Call sign: Gatting confronts Shikoor Rana and sparks the cry for neutrality

age would be the same for both the host nations and the visiting countries, bearing in mind umpires are as likely to give one player out leg-before as another.

In the 482 Tests played between 1967 and the Australia tour to Pakistan which finished last month, home umpires gave their own batsmen out leg-before 12.26 per cent of all the wickets lost, compared with 13.79 per cent for the tourists: 875 times out of 7,138 against 1,052 in 7,628 wickets down for their visitors. So players were 1.53 per cent more likely to fall leg-before when batting in Tests abroad.

In Pakistan, where much of the criticism over umpires has been directed, the margin is greater. In 57 Tests there, touring players have been

deemed leg-before 173 times out of 891 wickets to fall, and Pakistani batsmen 86 times in 482 — a percentage difference of 6.81.

A similar pattern can be seen in India. The home players have been out leg-before 142 of their 1,181 wickets to fall, compared with 197 times in 1,172 for visitors. Indian umpires give their own countrymen out leg-before 6.78 per cent less often than their opponents.

In Sri Lanka, the discrepancy is again in favour of the home side. They seem to treat tourists much more severely, giving leg-before 16.78 per cent more often than against visiting batsmen. However, it must be said that these figures are taken from just 12 Tests staged there.

In those series where England and New Zealand have played host, the figures are reversed. The umpires give home batsmen out leg-before more often than the opposition: 1.81 per cent more in England and 1.08 per cent more in New Zealand.

According to this analysis, England and New Zealand come off worse. In Pakistan, England are leg-before 3.35 per cent more often, in Australia 4.15, in the West Indies 0.91, and in India 9.5.

But English umpires appear to do down India and Sri Lanka, giving them out more often 0.96 and 25.07 per cent respectively. Though with Sri Lanka, the figures are taken from just the recent couple of Tests played in this country.

Looking at the overall figures, there is certainly a marked difference in figures for home and away sides. They by no means suggest there is foul play, but they serve as ammunition for the advocates of a neutral umpiring system in Test cricket. This scheme would reduce any doubt about the impartiality of officials: contentious verdicts would then be seen as biased umpiring but as poor umpiring. *Giles Lyon is a journalist and cricket enthusiast. This article is based on one he wrote for The Associated, a magazine for chartered accountants.*

LEG-BEFORE DECISIONS IN TESTS 1967 TO 1988

ENGLAND									
Visitors	Tests	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home
Australia	32	501	78	15.76	517	78	14.70	1.08	
W Indies	18	265	45	16.96	396	45	15.61	1.35	
N Z land	19	293	24	8.21	318	24	10.44	2.23	
India	10	225	34	15.11	263	34	15.22	0.11	
Pakistan	2	23	1	4.34	34	10	25.07	20.73	
Sri Lanka	2	23	1	4.34	34	10	25.07	20.73	
TOTAL	112	1702	263	15.01	2778	263	13.20	1.81	

AUSTRALIA									
Visitors	Tests	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home
England	32	501	42	7.97	558	42	11.82	3.85	
W Indies	18	265	38	14.34	382	38	14.34	0.00	
N Z land	19	293	24	8.21	318	24	10.44	2.23	
India	10	225	34	15.11	263	34	15.22	0.11	
Pakistan	2	23	1	4.34	34	10	25.07	20.73	
Sri Lanka	2	23	1	4.34	34	10	25.07	20.73	
TOTAL	98	1573	167	10.51	1706	167	11.00	0.49	

WEST INDIES									
Visitors	Tests	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home
England	18	265	32	12.07	325	32	12.07	0.00	
Australia	13	208	27	13.19	254	27	10.82	2.37	
N Z land	9	117	14	11.96	125	14	12.20	0.24	
India	14	186	13	8.98	202	13	9.40	0.42	
Pakistan	8	142	17	12.07	149	17	12.07	0.00	
TOTAL	62	687	103	11.51	1085	103	12.32	0.81	

NEW ZEALAND									
Visitors	Tests	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home
England	13	191	28	14.53	188	28	14.53	0.00	
Australia	11	154	19	12.33	158	19	12.33	0.00	
W Indies	9	140	21	15.00	140	21	15.00	0.00	
India	1	14	1	7.14	14	1	7.14	0.00	
Pakistan	1	14	1	7.14	14	1	7.14	0.00	
Sri Lanka	2	24	1	4.16	40	1	4.16	0.00	
TOTAL	38	494	82	11.52	796	82	10.44	1.08	

INDIA									
Visitors	Tests	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home
England	10	142	24	16.90	263	24	16.90	0.00	
Australia	18	265	38	14.34	382	38	14.34	0.00	
N Z land	19	293	24	8.21	318	24	10.44	2.23	
West Indies	9	117	14	11.96	125	14	12.20	0.24	
Pakistan	2	23	1	4.34	34	10	25.07	20.73	
Sri Lanka	2	23	1	4.34	34	10	25.07	20.73	
TOTAL	60	865	140	14.22	1085	140	14.22	0.00	

PAKISTAN									
Visitors	Tests	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home
England	15	181	23	15.27	218	23	15.27	0.00	
Australia	9	107	11	11.70	151	11	11.70	0.00	
W Indies	7	121	19	15.70	99	19	15.70	0.00	
N Z land	1	17	1	7.14	17	1	7.14	0.00	
India	11	136	16	14.53	158	16	14.53	0.00	
Sri Lanka	4	56	8	14.28	108	8	14.28	0.00	
TOTAL	57	622	88	15.20	891	88	15.20	0.00	

SRI LANKA									
Visitors	Tests	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home
England	15	181	23	15.27	218	23	15.27	0.00	
Australia	9	107	11	11.70	151	11	11.70	0.00	
W Indies	7	121	19	15.70	99	19	15.70	0.00	
N Z land	1	17	1	7.14	17	1	7.14	0.00	
India	11	136	16	14.53	158	16	14.53	0.00	
Sri Lanka	4	56	8	14.28	108	8	14.28	0.00	
TOTAL	57	622	88	15.20	891	88	15.20	0.00	

SOUTH AFRICA									
Visitors	Tests	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home
England	4	67	7	10.44	80	7	10.44	0.00	
TOTAL	4	67	7	10.44	80	7	10.44	0.00	

SUMMARY									
Visitors	Tests	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home	Wickets	Home
England	112	1702	263	15.01	2778	263	13.20	1.81	
Australia	98	1573	167	10.51	1706	167	11.00	0.49	
W Indies	62	687	103	11.51	1085	103	12.32	0.81	
N Z land	38	494	82	11.52	796	82	10.44	1.08	
India	60	865	140	14.22	1085	140	14.22	0.00	
Pakistan	2	23	1	4.34	34	10	25.07	20.73	
Sri Lanka	2	23	1	4.34	34	10	25.07	20.73	
S Africa	4	67	7	10.44	80	7	10.44	0.00	
TOTAL	468	7,138	875	12.26	7,628	875	13.79	1.53	

CRICKET

Hadlee is quickly among the wickets

Delhi (Reuters) — Richard Hadlee shrugged off the irritation of a long delay to the start of New Zealand's opening tour match to dismiss West Zone's leading batsmen yesterday as the home side finished the day at 149 for four.

After the late arrival of the New Zealand kit, Hadlee dismissed the opening batsmen with only nine runs on the board. He added two more to reduce West Zone to 23 for four before Shrikant Kalyani and Tushar Arohe shared an unbroken fifth-wicket partnership. The start of the three-day match was delayed when the New Zealand kit failed to arrive on time, officials blaming traffic jams on the road between Bombay and the ground. It was a similar situation to one which the Australians faced in 1985, when a delay in the arrival of their gear from Calcutta forced a one-day international against India at Jamshepur to start several hours late.

The New Zealanders reached Rajkot on Monday evening from Bombay, where they had arrived last week to start a two-month tour. They will play three Test matches and five one-day internationals.

WEST ZONE: First innings
 1. Rajwade 10 (100)
 2. Shrikant Kalyani 23 (100)
 3. Tushar Arohe 23 (100)
 4. Pandey 10 (100)
 5. Hadlee 10 (100)
 6. Hadlee 10 (100)
 7. Hadlee 10 (100)
 8. Hadlee 10 (100)
 9. Hadlee 10 (100)
 10. Hadlee 10 (100)

Discipline looming for Shastri

Dhaka — Ravi Shastri returns home today ostensibly to have treatment for his injured back before the first Test match against New Zealand starting in Bangalore on November 3 (Javed Akhtar writes). However, team sources reveal Shastri would have been dropped for showing lack of interest had he not been under fire for the opening Asia Cup match against Bangladesh on October 27.

Shastri's waning interest goes back to the Champions Trophy in India last month when he was dropped for the West Indies and India officials believed he needed to be disciplined. He is reported to have asked Dr. Ali Rana, the team doctor, for a certificate that he was unfit. The doctor refused when he found nothing wrong; the process repeated at Chittagong after six X-rays.

Meanwhile, J. J. Warr, the International Cricket Conference chairman and J. R. Stephenson, the secretary, are due to arrive here tomorrow as guests of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board. Talks with Indian, Pakistani and Sri Lankan officials will attempt to solve the apartheid issue which threatens international cricket unity.

Yorkshire aim to profit from catering

Yorkshire County Cricket Club is going into the catering business in an effort to make money out of the first Test and Test Trophy games against Australia next summer (Martin Scarry writes).

The proceeds from ground advertising and temporary executive boxes go to its landlords, the Leeds Cricket and Rugby Football Club, and Yorkshire intend to use their indoor school, which is situated opposite the Sutcliffe Gates, to offer a Pullman package for business and individual parties. They have linked up with Peter Parfitt's organization to offer special champagne reception, four-course lunch, a free bar, television, telephone and car parking, in a package priced at £120 a head, which is expected to bring a minimum profit of £20,000 to the County.

One for the bag on the rainbow chase



The lush Central Highlands of Tasmania bear a passing resemblance to our native countryside, but that fact will hold little comfort for the England team in its quest to retain the world fly fishing championship, held there from November 26 to December 2 (Mark Herbert writes).

Geoffrey Clarkson, the England captain, faces different conditions to those of last May, when the team title was won on the large, deep lakes of Grahams Water and Rutland Water and the prolific River Test in Hampshire. Artificially stocked rainbow trout made up most of the bag.

Tasmania's quarry are a different prospect. The streams and three lakes where the championships will be held are smaller, shallower and clearer, and the brown and rainbow trout, descended from English stock introduced in the 1860s, are feral: small, wary, muscular fish that hunt in the shallow margins and have to be sought on small flies and light leaders.

Australia are likely to dispossess England of the title. Home advantage apart, they have improved in recent years and in 1987 took the prize for the best overseas team. Italy, four times the winners in eight years of competition, are also fancied.

England's best hope in the individual competition is Brian Leadbetter, the world champion, pictured above (left) with Clarkson and a 15lb rainbow trout taken in shallow-water practice at Deva Springs, near Winchester, yesterday.

Clarkson, a captain, organizes tactics and does not fish in the championships. Only trout count on the totals and once netted, they are weighed by scrutineers and returned alive. Each team fishes each section once, so the skill, science and practice that have been put in can be overturned by one factor: luck.

ENGLAND TEAM: G. Clarkson (captain), B. Leadbetter, D. Buck, R. Church, J. Pinner, B. Thomas.

(Photograph: Stephen Markeson)

BOXING

Mitchell sure that gentle touch will see off McDonnell

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

While Brian Mitchell, of South Africa, is waiting in his dressing-room at the Elephant and Castle Leisure Centre tonight before entering the ring to defend his World Boxing Association super-featherweight title against Jim McDonnell, of Stepien, he will say a prayer for himself — and for McDonnell.

The reason for this unusual act is that the champion does not want McDonnell to be injured in any way in the bout. "We are Christians," Mitchell's trainer, Carlos Jacoma, an Argentinean, said. "We don't want to knock him out or hurt him in any way, we just want to retain the title."

A new line in gamesmanship one might think, but Jacoma seemed sincere. He said Mitchell's concern

stemmed from the fact that four of his five world title opponents have not been the same after defeats by Mitchell. "Alfredo Layne wasn't the same after Brian knocked him out and he retired; the same with Jose Rivera, Rocky Fernandez and Salvatore Curciotti. Only the Frenchman, Daniel Londas, is still there."

Jacoma, who took over from Willie Towel as trainer, admitted that he knew nothing about McDonnell's style. They had asked Mickey Duff, the promoter, for tapes, but had not received any.

But the South Africans are not worried: they believe Mitchell is capable of taking care of the challenger because "he has become an even better fighter than when he won the

title. He has kept on learning with every fight. In the old days he used to depend on power and strength, but these days he is a thinking fighter. His knowledge adds fluency to power," Jacoma said.

McDonnell might be slightly amused by Mitchell's concern for his well-being because the Londoner has never had any trouble looking after himself in the ring, and has an unbeaten 24-out-of-24 record. McDonnell, too, is a thinking boxer: in fact, of all Terry Lawless's boxers he is the most tactically oriented and is one of few British boxers who can vary and change directions during a contest to manoeuvre himself into better striking positions.

McDonnell is not a heavy puncher and prefers to box around an opponent picking up the points with long, stiff jabs until it is safe to go in and unleash his stinging combinations.

Against Mitchell, who has won 35 of his 38 bouts, McDonnell is almost certain to adopt these tactics, and depend on his longer reach to keep him in front.

Mitchell, who has an exceptionally high work-rate, says he knows enough to draw McDonnell in. "If he wants the title he has to come and get it," Jacoma said. If McDonnell can stay outside he can win, but if the champion catches him with a good shot and moves in, McDonnell could be stopped.

HOCKEY: JUNIORS STRUGGLE; CUP DRAW YIELDS EARLY EXAMINATION

Sound teamwork gives Australians the edge

By Sydney Friskin

Hockey Association XI: 2
 Australian IOS: 3

An England junior side, representing the Hockey Association, was beaten by the Australian Institute of Sport at Bisham Abbey, yesterday in a fast and entertaining game played by two extremely talkative sides.

The Australians are a long way through the tour and their teamwork was better. They put the England defence under a lot of pressure, the first half forcing five short corners and hitting the ball as hard as they could but Luckes, in goal, made three smart saves from Williams, the left-back.

The Australians went ahead in the fifteenth minute from their second short corner. Davies scored off the rebound, but lost their centre half, Carey, who was hit on the nose from a ball which rose off the stick of Tom Bambury. Mayer levelled the score from a penalty stroke, the

Australians having been penalized for sick obstruction.

Bodimead, a fast and improving inside right, put the Australians in the lead in the fourth minute of the second half from a scramble but two minutes later Avery levelled the score from a short corner. Mayer limped off with hamstring trouble and his replacement, Sage, failed to put England in front during a brief period of ascendancy by shooting wide.

A heavy price was paid in the end with Davies scoring for the Australians, who will play a more serious England side today at the same venue.

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION XI: D Luckes (East Grinstead), A Forshaw (Farnham), M Kinkaid (Tatton Vale), S. B. B. (London), A. Widdow (Covehithe and North Warwickshire), J. Barber (Southgate), G. Bambury (Oxford University), A. Begun (Barford Tigers), S. Avery (Havant), R. Garcia (Havant), C. Mayer (Tottenham), C. Davies (London), J. Lee (East Grinstead), S. A. Haines (

Newcastle deeper in maze as Hay rejects their offer

By Ian Ross

David Hay, the former Scottish international, last night rejected an offer to manage Newcastle United and thereby plunged the club deeper into the managerial maze from which it was confident it had emerged.

Newcastle had been preparing to announce the appointment of Hay as the successor to Willie McFaul, who was dismissed on October 10, but Hay rejected the first division club's offer after being informed that he would be employed only until the end of this season, after which his performance would be reviewed.

Hay, who has been out of management since he was dismissed by Celtic 18 months ago, wanted a permanent, not a temporary, appointment and is believed to have demanded a three-year contract.

So less than 24 hours after Newcastle had indicated that their three-week search for a new manager had reached a satisfactory conclusion, Gordon McKeag, their chairman, who had been spearheading the nationwide hunt, found himself reluctantly stepping back into square one.

Hay had travelled down to Newcastle on Monday for exploratory talks with McKeag and his fellow directors and was expected to return yesterday morning to complete a few minor formalities.

After his meeting with Hay, McKeag had declined to qualify the terms of any agreement which had been provisionally reached, but in the wake of yesterday's inactivity on two fronts it became clear that the job on offer at St James' Park was not a permanent one.

After careful consideration Hay decided to turn down a package identical to the one rejected last week by Bob Paisley, the former manager of Liverpool.

Paisley, who is a director at Anfield, was invited to take over in a caretaker capacity

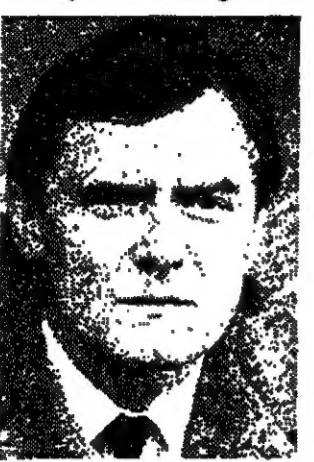
until the end of the season, when Newcastle would make a fresh approach to one, or possibly more, of the men who have already resisted the temptation of a long-term and financially lucrative contract.

Since the Newcastle board ended the contract of McFaul, they have approached no fewer than eight managers in their search for a successor with the necessary charisma and experience to undertake one of the most demanding jobs in British football.

Arthur Cox, the manager of Derby County who was formerly in charge at Newcastle, was McKeag's first choice but the chairman was refused permission to approach him.

After failing to secure Cox, McKeag attempted to persuade Howard Kendall to leave the Spanish club, Athletic Bilbao, where he has been in charge for the past 18 months. The Newcastle chairman flew out to Spain for talks with Kendall but the former Everton manager insisted that he would not be returning to English football in the foreseeable future.

However, since that meeting a fortnight ago, Kendall has come under increasing pressure at Bilbao after a series of poor results and there is good reason to believe that he may decide to resign at the



Hay: not for St James'

end of the season, if not before it.

This dramatic change in Kendall's fortunes undoubtedly influenced to a great degree McKeag's decision to offer Hay only a temporary appointment.

● Ron Atkinson's successor as manager of West Bromwich Albion, who is expected to be Brian Talbot, formerly of Arsenal, will be announced today. Under Talbot's guidance as caretaker manager the second division side has won its last four games.

● Chesterfield are to finance a double managerial appointment today. Barrie Hubbard, their chairman, referring to Kevin Randall's replacement, said: "We believe it is a two-man job." He would neither confirm nor deny that the partnership involved John Newman, formerly of Derby County, and Paul Hart, formerly of Nottingham Forest.

● Middlesbrough completed the £700,000 transfer of Peter Davenport, the Manchester United forward. Aged 27, Davenport has signed a four-year contract for the north-east club.

● Jason Kearton, an Australian who flew to England at his own expense to try to make it in British football, has signed a professional contract with Everton. Seven weeks ago the former Brisbane Lions goalkeeper, aged 19, walked into Goodison Park and asked for a trial.

Ron Green, the Wimbledon goalkeeper who has kept five clean sheets in seven appearances since joining Shrewsbury Town on loan, is to stay at Gay Meadow for a further month.

● ROME: Roma, the Italian first division club, will appeal against a European Football Union (UEFA) decision to uphold the result of their UEFA Cup tie at Partizan Belgrade last week (Reuters reports).

Argentina invited to Rous Cup

By Clive White

The Football Association has gone ahead with its plan to invite Argentina to compete in the Rous Cup in May in spite of Government objections. A year ago the FA scrapped the idea when the Prime Minister frowned on it.

Argentina's inclusion in the annual competition involving England, Scotland and an invited guest will be the first time a football team from that country has played in Britain since the Falklands war in 1982. A spokesman for the FA said yesterday that they expected a reply shortly.

"It is our aim to find top-class opposition for this event, and Argentina, as world champions, fit the bill," the FA spokesman said. When the Government voiced its disapproval of the idea last season, the FA switched the attention to Colombia. But although the South Americans proved to be entertaining visitors, they attracted poor crowds.

At a meeting with the Prime Minister in July, the FA volunteered to cancel the match against Italy this month and are now having to travel to Saudi Arabia for a game instead. Clearly the FA has taken the decision to invite Argentina in order to assist Bobby Robson, the England manager, England are in desperate need of top quality opposition to help their qualification for the World Cup finals in 1990.

Mitchell's title bout given the all-clear

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

The bout between Brian Mitchell, of South Africa, the World Boxing Association super featherweight champion, and Jim McDonnell, of Britain, which has been bedevilled by protests, is to go ahead after all at the Elephant and Castle Leisure Centre tonight, Southwark Council decided yesterday.

There had been fears the bout would be stopped after members of the National Union of Public Employees told Southwark Council that they would walk out in protest if a South African was allowed to box at the Leisure Centre.

But, after a hurriedly called meeting, the council decided that in view of the fact that a High Court injunction had been granted to the promoters last week against the council itself, which wanted to stop the

Platini linked to manager's role

Michel Platini is to become the manager of the French football team, replacing Henri Michel, according to the French radio station, *France Info*.

Platini, aged 33, retired from playing last year after a successful career with Nancy, St Etienne and Juventus. He also led France to the European Championship in 1984.

France Info reported that Jean-François Revard, the president of the French Football Federation, told Michel of his dismissal yesterday, having earlier met Platini.

Jean Dado, the president of the French league, declined to comment other than to say that nothing had yet been decided. Platini said he would announce his plans on Friday.

The president of Bordeaux, Claude Be, is expected to become the national team director. Be is believed to have been instrumental in persuading Platini to accept the post. Gerard Houllier, a

former manager of Paris Saint-Germain, is expected to become assistant manager and Jean Tigana, of Bordeaux, will captain the team. Tigana, aged 33, said last year, after winning his 51st cap, that he no longer wished to be considered for the French team but he has had a good season with his club this year.

Michel's position has been in jeopardy following a series of disappointing international results which culminated in a 1-1 draw with Cyprus in a World Cup qualifying match last month. Despite this, France have not been beaten for nearly a year, having won four and drawn four in that period.

Michel has also been involved in a widely publicized dispute with one of the most promising French players, Eric Cantona, of Olympique Marseille, who has been suspended from the international team because of remarks he made about Michel.

Go-ahead for cup ties

Woking and Stafford Rangers were given approval by the police yesterday to stage their FA Cup first-round ties against Football League opponents later this month (Paul Newman writes).

An attendance limit of 5,000 has been imposed for Woking's match against Cambridge United; Stafford's tie against Crewe Alexandra will be all-ticket, with a crowd limit of 6,000.

Southport hope to confirm today that they will be able to stage their first-round match against Port Vale. A meeting yesterday with police, council and fire officials concluded that improvements will have to be made to exit, entrances, seating and perimeter walls, but the club believes these can be carried out in time. The match is likely to be all-ticket, with a crowd limit of about 7,000.

"Villa have a good record in the League Cup," he added. "It could be a good omen for me."

Tonight's team has not yet been selected. Stuart Gray has an ankle injury while his namesake, Andy, is available after suspension.

Southampton face cheerful underdogs



Wet warm-up: Scarborough's Blackwell (left), Short and Norris wind up training for tonight's match against Southampton

Scarborough fear worst in cup

Scarborough, of the fourth division, fear the worst when they take on Southampton in the third round of the Littlewoods Cup at their tiny Seamer Road ground tonight.

Neil Warnock, the manager, gives them little genuine hope of reaching the last 16 in the competition. But he promises his side will play the sort of attacking, fluent football which accounted for Portsmouth in the previous round on a 4-2 aggregate.

"We don't know how to play any other way and are simply not capable of shutting up shop," Warnock said. "We will try and go at them but if

we lose 10-0, so what, I'll be more content with three points at Carlisle on Saturday."

Warnock has not seen or had Southampton watched and has gained all his intelligence about the side, sixth in the first division, from viewing video tapes.

Chris Micholl, the Southampton manager, has closely studied Scarborough in each of their three games since the draw was made and his team will have a further advantage with the North Yorkshire club sustaining injuries to Graham (groin), Brook (shin), Richards and

Kamara (ankles) in the victory over Rotherham United at the weekend.

"Clearly we want to show people we've come a long way in a short time and I hope the game is not a damp squib," Warnock, who gave up his chirpody practice to manage the club full time after finishing 12th last season, said.

"But we will have to frame ourselves or we'll get a drubbing against this sort of side which takes advantage of every mistake. Even if we are beaten we will have learned another lesson."

Scarborough, who only bud-

ged for one game in the competition, expect another big crowd after their biggest gate last Saturday, and Warnock expects at least three of his injured players to start the game, highlights of which will be seen on television tonight. Much interest will focus on Craig Short, aged 20, the tall, strong centre back who has been impressive in his first season.

"He's growing up with every game and he could be good enough for the first division in six months or so," Warnock, who is secretly hoping for a better result than his pessimism might indicate, said.

Pleasing draw ensures early exit of Liverpool or Arsenal

Much to the relief of managers the length and breadth of the country, the draw for the third round of the Littlewoods Cup guaranteed that one of the two clubs which have dominated the competition in its various guises over the past decade would face an ignominious early exit.

While the pairing of Liverpool, the Football League champions, and Arsenal, last season's beaten finalists, will not have been welcomed at tonight's venue, Anfield, nor at Highbury, the random element of chance did at least produce a tie of limitless potential.

Liverpool, who were installed as the favourites to win every one of English football's major domestic trophies before the season had started, have a remarkable record in the competition, winning it on four consecutive occasions between 1981-84.

Arsenal, beaten in injury time by Luton Town last

season, had won the Littlewoods Cup 12 months earlier, when they came from behind to defeat tonight's opponents.

Of the four league games played at Anfield this season, Liverpool have won only one, defeating Manchester United in early September.

Indeed, Liverpool's victory over West Ham United at Upton Park on Saturday was their first in five league outings, but if Kenny Dalglish, the champions' manager, had been hoping the result marked a welcome change in fortune, he had obviously not legislated for yet more injury problems.

Already without Hansen, Grobbelaar, Gillespie, and Beglin, Dalglish yesterday pronounced Whelan as a doubtful starter for tonight's game.

McMahon, the England international, has been drafted into the senior squad. Dalglish will also have to implement another defensive

reshuffle as Burrows, a recent acquisition, from West Bromwich Albion, is cup-tied.

He could be replaced at full back by the inexperienced Staunton, who is included in a 15-strong party, along with MacDonald and Jeffers.

Donaghy, the Northern Ireland international defender, who joined Manchester United from Luton last week, will miss the game against Wimbledon at Plough Lane as he is cup-tied. His place alongside Bruce at the centre of defence will almost certainly go to Garton.

Alex Ferguson, the United manager, has added Sharpe, Anderson, and Beardsmore, to the squad which was on duty at Everton on Sunday.

Sheridan, the Leeds United and Republic of Ireland international, is likely to play against Luton, the holders, at Elland Road, despite injuring an ankle during the weekend win over Hull City.

Clough mourns lost support

By Dennis Shaw

Brian Clough's uneasy relationship with the Nottingham public will take a turn for the worse unless there is a healthy turn-out for Coventry's Littlewoods Cup visit tonight and subsequent fixtures.

The Forest manager has already this season been angered by supporters' verbal impatience with the wingers, Crook and Rice. Now his grievance is with attendances which, he feels, should constantly be above 20,000.

Last week's gate of nearly 30,000 for the Liverpool game was an indication of what Clough sees as the potential support as he attempts to build a young side capable of winning honours. This figure contrasted with other attendances this season of little more than half that amount.

"If we cannot pull them in now, the way we are playing, I will despair completely," he said. "I cannot understand why people do not regularly

come and support us in greater numbers."

"I know we have not set the world on fire with our performances at home overall, but we did put together a good display in beating Liverpool so hopefully we can keep that going and the crowds will turn up."

Paul Hart, the Notts County player-coach, is expected to become the player-manager of Chesterfield in succession to Kevin Randall who left recently.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Douglas declines

Desmond Douglas has confirmed that he will not help England's table tennis promotion push in the European league this season. "I'm 32 now and although the season isn't halfway through, I'm already tired," he said.

"I think it's time the younger players took responsibility for the European league matches."

Moving on

John Davies, the Sports Council's assistant director of national sports centres, has been appointed as the new director of Holme Pierrepont in Nottingham, the national water sports centre. He will take up his post in January, replacing Dennis Rodgers, who will move to the Sports Council's centre services unit.



Mario Andretti signed up

Scottish squad

Scotland, the only British side to have won a world cup medal, has selected a squad of 20, led by Karen Donaldson, for the third women's lacrosse world cup in Perth, Australia next August.

SQUAD: K. Barber, D. Brown, J. Campbell, M. Galt, G. Davies, K. Dool, K. Donaldson, J. Duff, S. Fowler, A. Galt, G. Galt, M. Galt, M. Galt, S. Galt, J. Wilson, L. Wilson, S. Wilson.

Togetherhness

Troy, Michigan (AFP). — Mario and Michael Andretti have been signed by the K-Mart Corporation as a rare father-and-son racing team, and will compete in the 1989 championship auto-racing teams (CART) series of Indy-car races.

Coach sacked

Mark Sakers, the American-born coach of the A and B Solent Stars Basketball Club was sacked yesterday. He led the team to the quarter-finals of the play-offs last season, but the team has managed only one victory this term. Phil Smith is likely to take over as player-coach.

Stepping up

Steve Webster, the world sidecar racing champion, makes his trucking debut in the international truck racing festival at Donington Park this weekend.

Graf's Cup blow for German team hopes

Frankfurt (AP) — Steffi Graf, the grand slam winner, announced yesterday that she was pulling out of the Federation Cup in Australia next month, thus reducing West Germany's chances of defending the top title in women's tennis.

Claus Stauder, president of the West German Tennis Federation, said he was told by Graf's father and manager, Peter Graf, that his daughter was dropping out because she needed rest after a crowded 1988 tournament schedule.

The mass-circulation *Bild* newspaper said yesterday that Graf also wanted to spend Christmas at home with her family.

The Federation Cup is scheduled for December 3 to 11 in Melbourne. Led by Graf, the top-ranked woman player in the world, West Germany beat the United States in last year's final.

Graf, who added an Olympic gold medal to her Grand Slam sweep this year, told *Bild* she wanted to rest at home between playing at the Masters tournament in New York at the end of November and travelling to Australia for the Open, the first grand slam event of 1989.

"I would have liked to play in the Federation Cup but it falls at such a bad date," Graf said. "Playing in the Federation Cup would mean I'd be away from home for nine weeks, including Christmas."

Graf's withdrawal leaves Claudia Kohde-Kilsch as the top West German player in the Federation Cup.

Cash prize boost

Organizers of the Paris Open tennis grand prix are to increase the prize money substantially next year.

Road to riches produces poverty

From Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent, New York

The crisis in American men's marathon running continues, and the success of the United States track and field athletes in the Seoul Olympics — 13 gold medals — has made the problem even more acute.

Mark Nenow, the American record holder for 10,000 metres who is making his debut at the marathon in New York on Sunday, has become the running equivalent of the Great White Hope. For, since Alberto Salazar's four-year domination of the New York and Boston marathons came to an end in 1982, Americans have been swamped by a wave of foreign winners, including Britons, Italians, Kenyans, Djiboutians, Japanese, and, now, Mexicans. In Chicago last Sunday, when Alejandro Cruz won, the first American was sixteenth.

Mike O'Reilly has a theory. It is neither imaginative nor new. O'Reilly, the Brit who finished fifth in Chicago, says: "Americans are too soft. They just don't train hard enough. O'Reilly is part of group of exiles, including the Commonwealth champion, Rob de Castella, who train at altitude in Boulder, Colorado. According to O'Reilly: "There's not one American who'll train with us. They come along once, get burned out, and we never see them again."

O'Reilly gave substance to a theory which has a lot of believers among marathon coaches: like with boxing, you need to have come from a hard background to succeed. Back in Britain, O'Reilly was a welder, with an evening and weekend driving job.

The roots of the Americans' problem is that unlike in Britain, there is still no solid local club system. The problem is money — the much of it, would you believe?



Nenow: America's hope

Bob Bright, the Chicago race director, says: "There's too much money available for shorter road races. If people think they can pick up a couple of thousand dollars every week in a 10K, they'll run 10Ks. There's no long-term perspective, like among the Europeans. They'll target a marathon, and, likely as not, do well in it."

Yet, for all his criticism, Bright followed the lead of 10-kilometre race directors, and introduced incentives for home runners. "The only thing that I hope," Bright said in his defence, "is that it will persuade Americans to run fewer 10Ks, and peak for marathons."

"Not a hope," O'Reilly says. "It's the start of the downward spiral. If it goes any further, foreigners will be put off racing in the U.S. Americans will win, but with poor performances. Standards will stagnate and the sponsors will pull out, and it'll set the sport back years."

O'Reilly has done what the previous immigrants had to do — work hard for his success. He was only a "journeyman" cross-country runner four years ago, before he chanced his legs on the road circuit in the United States.

His sporting life was on a knife-edge straightaway. "Within two weeks of getting to Boulder, we were down to \$800. It was make or break. I went to my first race, a 10K in South Carolina, and I won \$1,000."

O'Reilly has barely looked back since. His best purse was \$20,000 for winning the Columbus marathon in 1985. His 2hr 11min 50sec in Chicago a personal best. He returned home to London on Monday for the winter, and is looking to even better things next year.

"I'm never going to break a world record, but I reckon I can run 2hr 09min for the marathon. I think the reason I've done so well in the States is that I was always tired from my job in England. It is hard when everything you earn is what you win in races. But that's where the Americans fall down. They get complacent too easily. I know what the alternative is: the factory!"

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